# LITHUANIA

## Through the Ages

By Dr. A. Šapoka

*AS FOR ME, GIVE ME DEATH OR GIVE ME LIBERTY*

*Virginia, 1775* — *PATRICK HENRY*

# LITHUANIA
# THROUGH THE AGES

*by*

DR. ADOLFAS ŠAPOKA

200 ILLUSTRATIONS

EDITOR T·J·VIZGIRDA·ARCHITECT

LITHUANIA·COUNTRY AND NATION I

*Drawings and Maps by E. Krasauskas, F. Lang, and F. Wittlinger.*

1.—5.000

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# LITHUANIA THROUGH THE AGES

## FIRST HISTORIC RECORDS · ORIGIN AND BORDERS

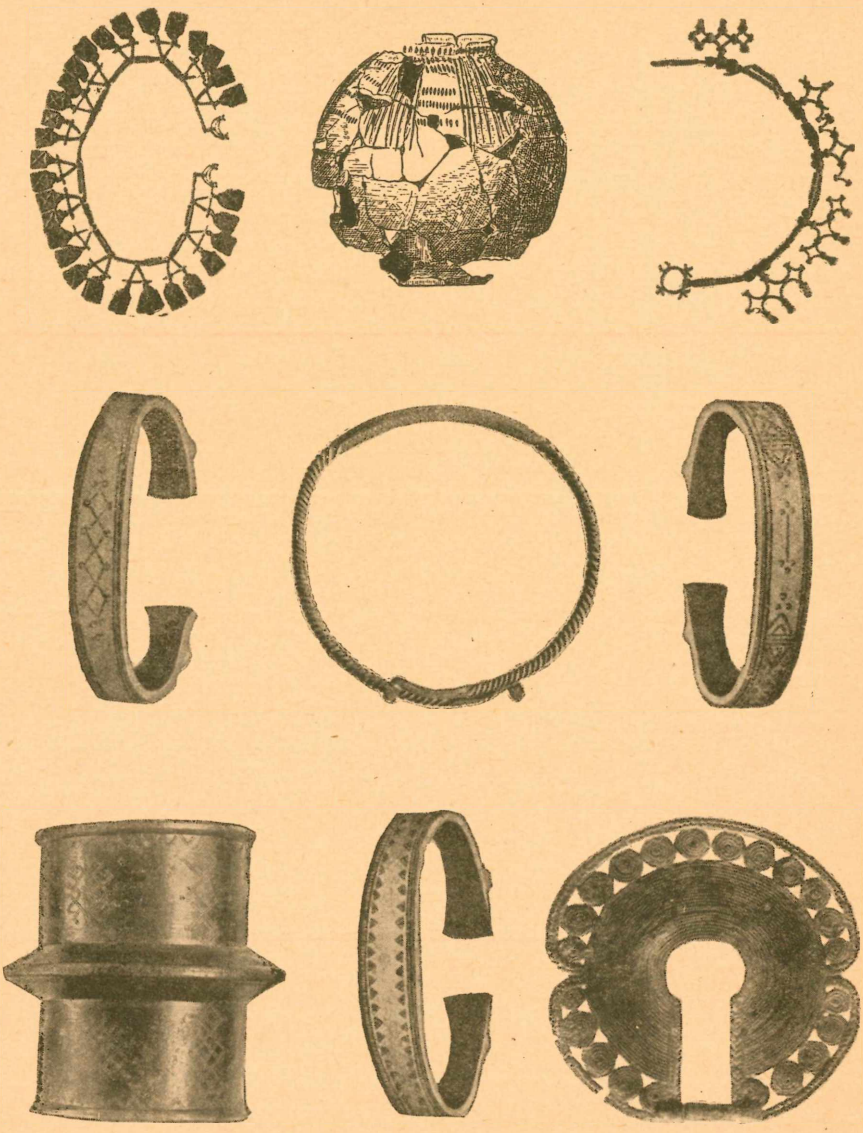
*Ergo jam dextro Suebici Maris litore Aestiorum gentes adluuntur, quibus ritus habitusque Sueborum, lingua Britannicæ proprior. Matrem deum venerantur. Insigne superstitionis formas aprorum gestant: id pro armis omniumque tutela securum deæ cultorum etiam inter hostes præstat. Rarus ferri, frequens fustium usus. Frumenta ceterosque fructus patientius quam pro solita Germanorum inertia laborant. Sed et mare scrutantur, ac soli omnium sucinum, quod ipsi glesum vocant, inter vada atque in ipso litore legunt.*

*Tacitus Germania, cap. 45,7*

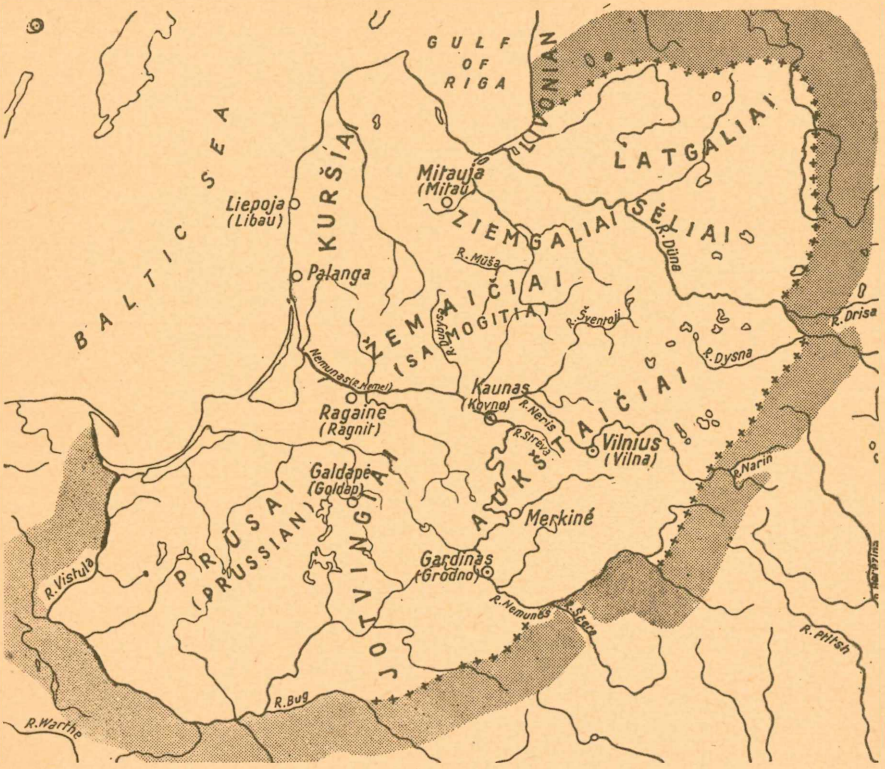
*First Historic Records.* Although the first records of the Lithuanians and the country they inhabited reach back as far as the IInd century, A.D. (Tacitus), a clearer picture can be obtained only in the IXth and Xth centuries, while the beginnings of regular Lithuanian written history are only to be found in the early XIIIth century. Since that time, we have pretty accurate knowledge of the land of the Lithuanians, their way of living, and the development of their State. Thus, we can say that written Lithuanian history extends over a period of 700 years.

*Origin and Borders.* The Lithuanians belong to the same Indo-European group of peoples as most of the European nations. Where they have come from is not known. They live between the Slav and Germanic peoples, but belong to neither of these groups. Of all living European nations, only the Latvians are akin to them, the forefathers of both nations— the so-called Balts— having populated the whole shore of the Baltic Sea from the river Vistula to far beyond the river Dauguva (Dvina)*. The historic eastern borders of their settlements are not quite definitely known. The archaeological material as well as the traces of the Baltic languages lead us to half-way between Smolensk and Moscow. Later on (in the VIIth and VIIIth centuries), pressed by the Slav expansion, the boundary was

* In parentheses, we give the German or Slav names usually found on maps



*1.—2.—2 a. Prehistoric Finds in Lithuania, Stone, Bronze, and Iron Ages*



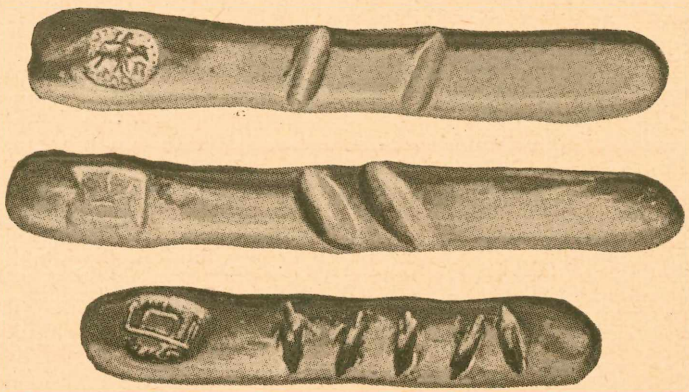

*3. The oldest Settlements of the "Aestorium Gentes" or Baltic Peoples. The Lithuanian main Tribes were the Žemaičiai, Aukštaičiai, Ziemgaliai, Latgaliai, Kuršiai, Prúsai (Prussian) and Jotvingiai*

moved westward, say to the line separating the basins of the Dnieper and the Nemunas (Memel, Niemen) rivers. The southern borders of the Baltic and Narev rivers up to the present Mazurian-Prussian border as far as settlements are far in the marshy district of the Pripet and follow the Bug the river Vistula. Thus, Eastern Prussia is but the homeland of the third member of the family of the Balts — the Old-Prussians or Borussians, who are therefore related to the Latvians and Lithuanians. During the XIIIth century, Eastern Prussia was conquered by the Teutonic Knights and Ger-

manized: only those of its inhabitants who lived in its Eastern part, influenced by the neighbouring Lithuanian central body, have remained true Lithuanians to this day.

The Order of the Teutonic Knights of Saint Mary was a monastic as well as a military organization, founded in Palestine during the Crusades. Its members were German Crusaders who had set out to fight the Infidels. When the Christians were driven out of Asia Minor, the Teutonic Order withdrew to Europe and settled in Prussia (1226—1230). Supported by the German Emperor and other German sovereigns as well as aided by all the Germanic world, this order of professional soldiers succeeded in the course of 50 years in subduing the Prussian country between the Vistula and Nemunas rivers and establishing its own well-organized State.

Having settled in Prussia, the Order immediately began to support the military enterprises of the German colony in Livonia (Latvia), which had been founded there in the middle of the XIIth century. Desiring to create a vast State of its own, the Order tried to expand its boundary as far as Livonia, but here it met with the well-organized and powerful Lithuanian State which was determined to defend every inch of its territory.



*4.—6. Old Lithuanian Money-tokens*

*7. Grand Duke Mindaugas (1236—1263)*
*Under his Reign the various Parts of Lithuania were united in one State*

# STRUGGLES WITH THE TEUTONIC ORDER AND GROWTH OF THE LITHUANIAN STATE

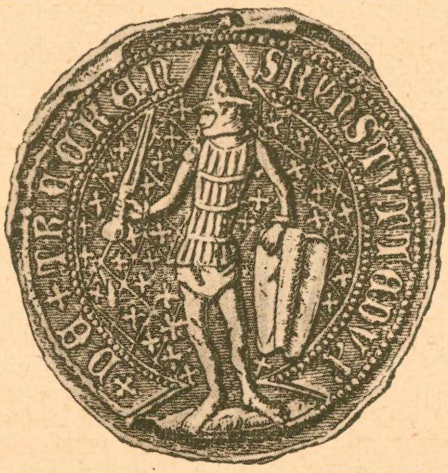
*Struggles with the Teutonic Order and Growth of the Lithuanian State.* The Teutonic Order which had vowed to fight the enemies of Christ in Palestine, again used Christian slogans when they decided to expand their territory on the shores of the Baltic Sea. Owing to the German political and social relations of those times, the Order received willing support from all Europe against the peaceful people whom they dubbed the „Saracens of the North". Reacting upon their calls for help, not only numerous adventurous knights but even kings and princes with their armies arrived to fight for the Order's cause. But this formidable military enterprise failed. Not only did the Teutonic Order not succeed in conquering the whole of the Lithuanian country, but they were not even able to annex that small part of it which lay between the Prussian possessions of the Knights and their Livonian colony.

*8. Weinreich von Knippenrode Grand Master of the Teutonic Order (1351—1382)*

*9. The Frontiers of Lithuania under Grand Duke Gediminas (1316—1341)*

The Struggle between the Lithuanians and the Order continued for one hundred and fifty years. In Lithuanian history, this is an epoch of heroism, critical moments and glorious victories. The Order proclaimed that they were fighting for the Christian world, and after every failure, the alarm was raised in the western countries that the pagan Lithuanians were a threat to all the Christians in Eastern Europe, and that, if they were not stopped, they would over-run the whole European continent. After

such misrepresentations of facts, new crowds of adventurers and knights, who naively believed that they would save their souls by their prowess, arrived, not only from Germany but even from France and England. But to the Lithuanians, this meant a struggle for their liberty, culture, and religion. This is why they displayed such an amazing power of resistance and not only succeeded in keeping the Order out of their territory, but even managed to expand their eastern boundaries, taking advantage of the disorder in the Russian provinces. Thus, up to the beginning of the XVth century, the Lithuanian frontier in the east passed not far from Moscow and the southern frontier reached the shores of the Black Sea. Lithuania became the greatest and most powerful East European state. It is true that this State was not centralized, but rather a union of half independent principalities or duchies, but its head was the Lithuanian ruler. No vital changes were made in the system of government of the conquered Russian provinces; often the original rulers were allowed to remain as vassals of the Lithuanian over-lords. Lithuania derived great material profit as well as military reinforcements from these territories for her struggle against the Teutonic Order.



*10. The Seal of Grand Duke Keistutis (1345—1382)*

# RELATIONS WITH WESTERN EUROPE AND CONVERSION TO CHRISTIANITY

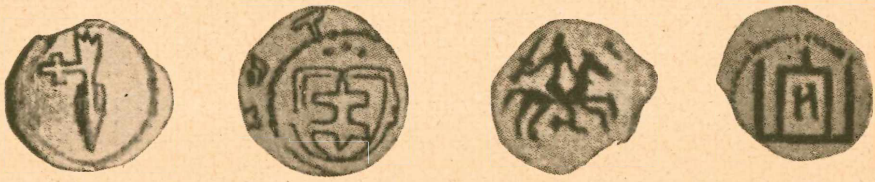
*Relations with Western Europe and Conversion to Christianity.* The Lithuanians were heathens up to the XIVth century. They worshipped the mysterious powers of nature and believed in sacrificing to them. Meanwhile all the neighbouring countries had already embraced the Christian religion. The Russians living within and beyond the Lithuanian borders professed the Orthodox religion and were influenced by the culture of the Byzantine Empire..

Western Christianity— the Roman Catholic Church— was represented by the German Order, the old enemy of Lithuania, and the Poles. A considerable part of the population of the Lithuanian Grand-Duchy (as the Lithuanian State was known in the XIVth and XVth centuries) consisted of the followers of the Eastern Church, but the Lithuanians were not impressed by the rigid eastern culture: they always felt drawn towards the dynamic West. To share this longed-for western culture, they had to take Christianity into the bargain, for no cultural intercourse could exist between Christians and heathens. The Lithuanian statesmen had often thought of this idea, but there had always been one grave obstacle: the policy of the German Order according to which there was only one way to become Christian, namely, to submit to their rule. Officially claiming to be servants of the Church, they really aimed at political ends: to keep Lithuania blocked economically and culturally. Controlling the natural outlets of Lithuania to the sea— the mouths of the Nemunas and Dauguva rivers as well as the land routes to the western world, the Order made all communication with Western Europe well-nigh impossible. Considering Lithuanian affairs their own particular business, the Order did not even allow any missionaries to enter the country. No wonder that the Lithuanians clung to their heathen religion for such a long time. When they at last became converted to the tenets of the Western Church, it was not through the efforts of the German Order, which had called them the greatest enemies of Christendom, but through the Poles who so far had hardly ever caused them trouble.

*11. Vytautas the Great (1392—1430)*
*One of the foremost Political Leaders in Eastern Europe during the Middle Ages. Under his Rule Lithuania extended from the Baltic to the Black Sea.*

*12. Lithuania at the Time of Vytautas the Great*

*End of the Menace of the Teutonic Order.* Lithuania was officially proclaimed a Christian State in 1387, a year after her powerful ruler, the Grand-Duke Jogaila had married the Polish Queen Jadvyga and become King of Poland. Thus contact between Lithuania and Western Europe was finally established and an ally won, whose existence was equally endangered. The result was that in less than twenty-five years (on 10th July, 1410 at Grünwald-Tannenberg) the allied Lithuanian and Polish forces, under the leadership of the Lithuanian Grand-Duke Vytautas the Great, defeated the Order so completely, that it never recovered and was finally dissolved in 1525. The Grand Master and most of the members of the Order became Lutherans and their State, the Prussian Duchy, was joined to Brandenburg. In 1701, the ruler of both States, Prince Frederic, became King of Prussia. Thus the Prussian relatives of the Lithuanians, who had nothing in common with the Germans, lent their name to the Hohenzollern monarchy which took such a prominent place among the European states in the XVIIIth century and from which the Empire of the German Kaisers developed at the end of the XIXth century.



*13 — 16. Coins of the Time of Vytautas the Great*

J. Matejko

The National Gallery of Arts, Warsaw

*17. Vytautas the Great in the Battle of Grünwald (Tannenberg) against the Teutonic Order, July 10, 1410*

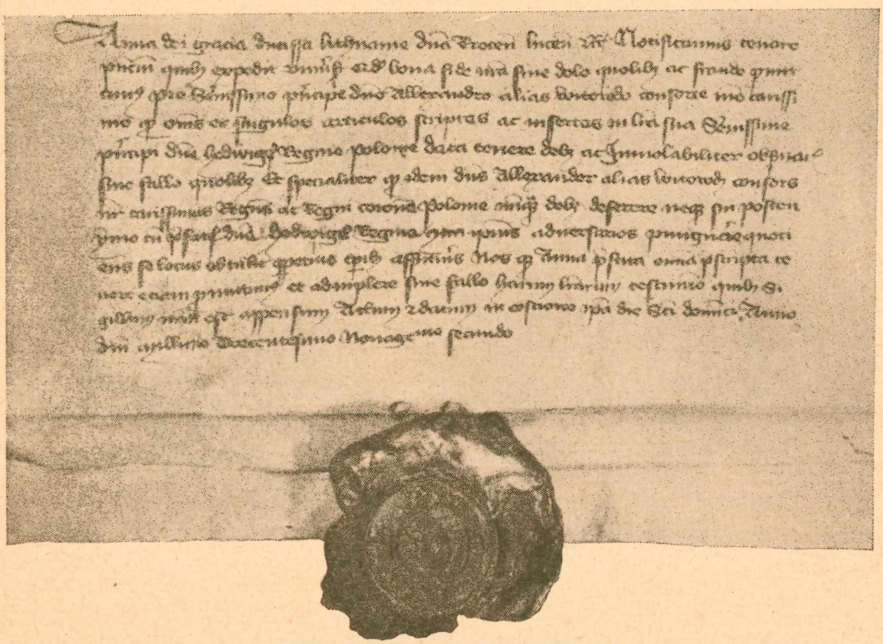
## EARLY RELATIONS WITH POLAND
## PERSONAL UNION WITH POLAND

*Early Relations with Poland.* The problem of the relations with Western Europe and the Order having been successfully solved, a new and very difficult problem arose — the problem of the relations with Poland.
Accepting the Polish throne, Jogaila (in Poland called Wladislaw II, d. 1434) still remained Grand-Duke of Lithuania and thus the danger of Lithuania becoming an integral part of Poland arose. And this was exactly what the Poles were aiming at. The Lithuanian people, however, was bitterly opposed to this idea, and Jogaila had to resign the rulership of Lithuania to his cousin, Vytautas the Great (d. 1430), a statesman of a high order, who soon succeeded in making himself quite independent. Under his rule, Lithuania's political importance reached its climax. The Lithuania of Vytautas the Great was the mightiest East European State, the influence of which made itself felt throughout Central Europe. Vytautas the Great because of his character and power was chosen king of the Czechs but refused to accept the offered crown.
Vytautas the Great is the most prominent personality in Lithuanian history and he alone has been called the Great.

*Personal Union with Poland.* During the reign of Vytautas, the accords made with Poland were changed several times and separation from Poland promoted. It was, for instance, guaranteed that Lithuania would always have her own sovereign. Jogaila's claim to the Lithuanian throne was never upheld by the people nor was that of his successors. Never-

theless, Vytautas having died without an heir and since there was no other suitable member of the reigning family, the Lithuanians gave their throne to Jogaila's youthful son Kazimieras (Casimir), whose elder brother Wladislaw the Poles had chosen for their king. The union with Poland was formally broken but not for long.

When Wladislaw III suddenly died (1444), the Poles elected his younger brother Kazimieras as their king. After long negotiations, the Lithuanians at last agreed to send their Grand-Duke to Poland (1447). Thus a personal union between the two countries was established, which lasted to the end of Jogaila's dynasty (1572). There was no formal agreement made between the two countries, but the personal union was maintained in this way: the Poles used to choose as their king that very member of the royal family whom the Lithuanians had made their Grand-Duke.



*18. Letter from Anna, Spouse of Vytautas the Great to Jadvyga, Queen of Poland, written at Astrava, August 5, 1392*

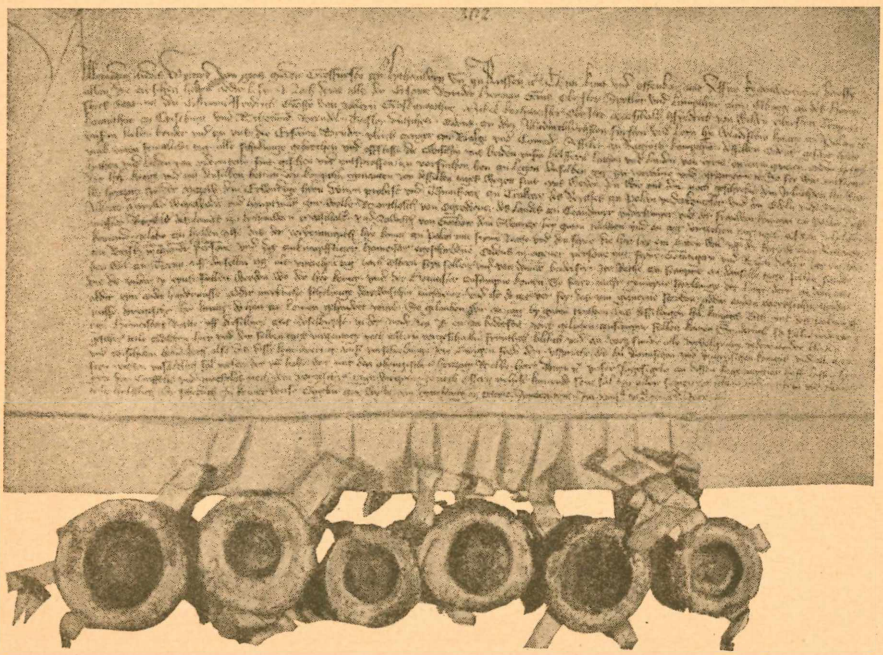
*Results of the Union with Poland.* The union with Poland, although guaranteeing Lithuania safety from that side and providing her with a natural ally, was nevertheless harmful in many respects. In the first place, since the common sovereign resided in Krakow (Poland) and very seldom came to Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, Lithuanian affairs suffered greatly. This is very clearly seen when we think of the relations with Moscow.

In the second half of the XVth century, Russia became a great state which not only annexed all the Russian territories which did not belong to the Lithuanian Grand-Duchy, but even claimed those under Lithuanian suzerainty. The struggle for these principalities went on during almost the whole of the XVIth century and ended in a Russian victory. Although Moscow's success was weakened later on by the treaty of 1582, which ended the long struggle, the Smolensk districts were yielded up to Russia.

Another disadvantage of the Lithuanian-Polish Union was of a politically-social and cultural character.

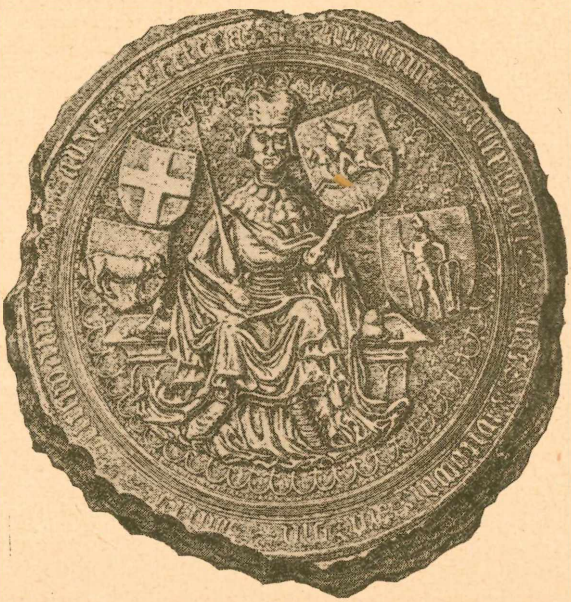
The old Lithuanian Grand-Duchy had been an absolute monarchy, while the Poland of the XIVth century was in fact ruled not by the sovereign, but by the nobles until, in the XVth—XVIth centuries, Poland became a quasi—parliamentary State ruled by the aristocracy of the country.

The Lithuanian nobles were greatly impressed by the rights and liberties of the Polish nobility and consequently felt drawn towards them. The Poles, consciously aiming at the fusion of both States, did whatever they could to lure the Lithuanians to join their cause. Thus, little by little, state institutions and political principles after the Polish fashion were established in Lithuania, too. No natural outcome of the development of the country, these elements of the Polish regime had a demoralizing and even destructive effect on Lithuania. The nobles, formerly such staunch patriots, came to care more for their own political and social rights than for state affairs. Thus, the XVIth century, although considered an age of cultural flowering and humanistic thought, from a political point of view was a very critical time.



*19. Letter of Vytautas the Great to the Grand Master of the Teutonic Order, dated Vilnius, January 2, 1414*

The Lithuanian nobles did not desire the fusion of the two countries but, constantly fighting for their own rights, and doing so with considerable success, they brought their State ever closer to Poland, thus actually paving the way for such an end. At length, the last member of the ruling dynasty, Zigmantas Augustas, not wishing the two countries to separate on his death and being strongly influenced by the Poles, had a number of laws passed in 1563—1566, which assimilated the Lithuanian form of government to that of Poland, and conferred on the Lithuanian nobles all the rights which Polish aristocracy enjoyed. Once this was done, there was no longer any formal reason why Poland and Lithuania should not become one State. The only obstacles were the stubborn attempts of the Lithuanian nobles to save the independence of their country, as well as their own government even though, in form, it was just like that of the Poles.



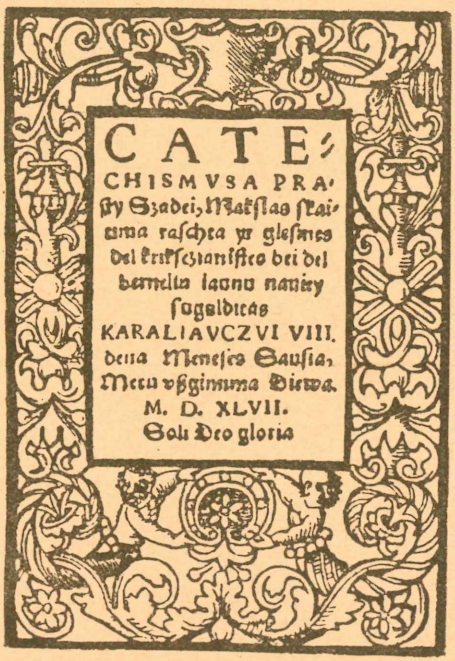
*20. Great Seal of Vytautas the Great*
*"Sigillum Alexandri alias Witowdi Dei Gra(tia) Ducis Lithwaniae . . . alie et cetera"*

*Problems of the Union.* The XVIth century in Lithuanian history was an age of paradox. On the one hand, the Lithuanian nobles yearned for equal rights with the Poles and fought for the Polish liberties; on the other hand, they were greatly opposed to the proposed union and the complete fusion of the two countries. To leave this problem undecided was impossible, for Lithuania, worn out by the long struggle with Moscow (from 1500 to 1582), needed the support of Poland, which gave her aid only if there were a union. That is why this question was often raised and discussed, especially in the days of the last king of the Jagellonian dynasty, Zigmantas Augustas (1544—1572). It was feared that on his death there would be no candidate to the throne who would suit both sides equally well. If these fears proved true, and no common sovereign could be found, the relations between the two countries would, very probably, be severed.

Therefore the most urgent problem to be settled was that of a common ruler, but neither this nor any other important question received a satisfactory solution, the points of view of the two countries being diametrically opposed. The Lithuanians agreed to have a common ruler and even a joint parliament to decide matters concerning both countries, but all the rest was to be left to their own discretion. The Poles, however, demanded complete fusion of the two states.

*The Union of 1569.* After numerous unsuccessful attempts to find a solution, this problem was at last settled in a joint parliamentary session in 1589, held in Lublin for this special purpose. A decision was reached but only after long debates and only because of the critical political situation. The Lithuanian representatives held onto their point of view, repeatedly broke off the discussions and even left Lublin, when their propositions were not accepted. Then Zigmantas Augustas, urged on by the Poles, decided to proclaim the union of both countries by a special royal decree, without the consent of the Lithuanian representatives. But before doing so, Zigmantas Augustas joined some districts of the Lithuanian Grand-Duchy (Volhynia, Podolia, and others) to Poland and made the nobles of this territory take the Polish oath of allegiance.

Because of the danger of a new war with Moscow and because there was no hope for aid from anyone else, as well as because of the pressure exerted by their own ruler, the Lithuanians could not risk an armed conflict with the Poles and returned to Lublin. Their position naturally was very much weakened, and they could not expect to attain much. Nevertheless the act of July lst, 1569 was not a full success for the Poles, either; it was much more in the nature of a compromise. In it the fusion of the two States into a single organism was declared, but otherwise each country was assured of an entirely separate organization which would work quite independently. The act also stated that both countries were to have one commonly chosen sovereign and a common parliament, but that both countries should have separate armies, separate law-courts and fiscal organizations, distinct laws, separate state-seals, without which no document of the particular country was legal, separate central and provincial organizations, and clearly defined borders.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ſugeldicas
KARALIAVCZVI VIII.
dena Meneſes Sauſia,
Metu vßginima Dieva.
M. D. XLVII.
Soli Deo gloria

*21. The first Lithuanian Book printed 1547 by Martynas Mažvydas*

*22.—25. Coins of the Time of Grand Duke Aleksandras (1492—1506) and Grand Duke Zigmantas Augustas (1544—1572)*

*Lithuania during the Period of the Union.* As already mentioned, the act, proclaiming the junction of Poland and Lithuania, did not really fuse the two States into one. The liberty-loving Lithuanians continually widened the breach. In fact, many measures of the Act of Union were never applied. For instance, the articles of the old Lithuanian Statute dealing with the problem of the undesirable settlement of the Poles in Lithuania, were not abolished although the Lithuanians had been told to do so, and when the third revised edition of the Statute was issued, these articles remained (1588).

Therefore the Poles were treated like all other foreigners and could neither fill a government post nor own land. No wonder that only a small number of Polish families took root in Lithuania.

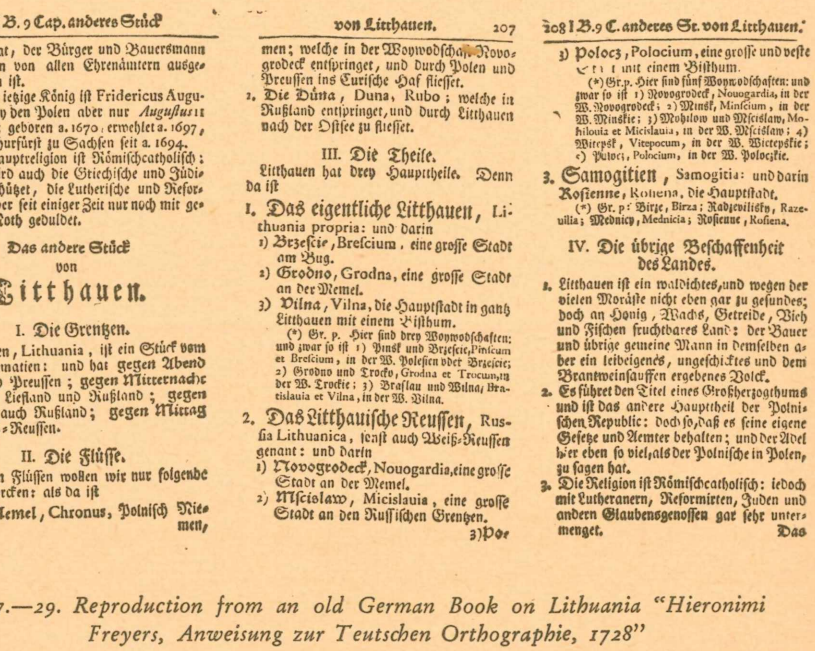
Another article of the act stated that the same currency should be used in both countries, but nothing of the kind was done. The Lithuanian gold currency remained, as formerly, 20% dearer than the Polish one, and the

*26. Seal of the Academy of Vilnius (founded 1579)*
*"Societatis Iesu Alme Academia Universitatis Wilnensis"*

Lithuanian State treasurer was so particular that he did not permit the King (until 1646) to use in Poland the funds he received from Lithuania. If he wished to spend them, he had to come to Lithuania. Besides that, the armies hat not only separate leaders, but were not even allowed to cross the border without the special permission of Parliament.

The relations between Lithuania and Poland were maintained through the common ruler and the common parliament. But even this parliament was not really unified, each State having affairs and concerns of its own and separate rights as well. Thus the parliament, which managed the affairs of the two separately organized countries, was in fact composed of two parts: the representatives of each country, while seeing to their own interests and their own Statute, watched the other party, in order to be sure that nothing was done that would be opposed to their interests. Even the regulation stating that no separate parliamentary sessions should be held, was violated. Even in the XVIIIth century, the Lithuanian parlia-

ment used to meet, special sessions were held before the common sessions in Poland, and decisions, regarding the political attitude of the country, were made. It can rightly be said that the sessions in Poland bore the character of international conferences and that although the same kind of government machinery functioned in both countries, the rights of each government extended only over its own particular territory. Not a single official could make decisions concerning both countries. Even the king's courtiers who accompanied him to Lithuania, used to be substituted by Lithuanian nobles on passing the frontier and vice versa. This form of government of the Lithuanian-Polish Commonwealth continued until the independence of both countries came to an end. Plans to fuse the two countries completely, made during the reform period shortly before that time, were never realized.



206 I B. 9 Cap. anderes Stück

sagen hat, der Bürger und Bauersmann hingegen von allen Ehrenämtern ausgeschlossen ist.

Der ietzige König ist Fridericus Augustus, bey den Polen aber nur *Augustus* II genant: geboren a. 1670, erwehlet a. 1697, auch Churfürst zu Sachsen seit a. 1694.

3. Die Hauptreligion ist Römischcatholisch; doch wird auch die Griechische und Jüdische geschützet, die Lutherische und Reformirte aber seit einiger Zeit nur noch mit genauer Noth geduldet.

Das andere Stück
von
# Litthauen.

## I. Die Grentzen.

Litthauen, Lithuania, ist ein Stück vom alten Sarmatien: und hat gegen Abend Polen und Preussen; gegen Mitternacht Curland, Liefland und Rußland; gegen Morgen auch Rußland; gegen Mittag aber Roth-Reussen.

## II. Die Flüsse.

Aus den Flüssen wollen wir nur folgende zwey bemercken: als da ist

1. Die Memel, Chronus, Polnisch Niemen,

von Litthauen. 207

men; welche in der Woywodschaft Novogrodeck entspringet, und durch Polen und Preussen ins Curische Haf fliesset.

2. Die Düna, Duna, Rubo; welche in Rußland entspringet, und durch Litthauen nach der Ostsee zu fliesset.

## III. Die Theile.

Litthauen hat drey Hauptheile. Denn da ist

1. **Das eigentliche Litthauen**, Lithuania propria: und darin
   1) Brzescie, Brescium, eine grosse Stadt am Bug.
   2) Grodno, Grodna, eine grosse Stadt an der Memel.
   3) Vilna, Vilna, die Hauptstadt in gantz Litthauen mit einem Bisthum.
   (*) Gr. p. Hier sind drey Woywodschaften: und zwar so ist 1) Pinsk und Brzescie, Pinscum et Brescium, in der W. Polesien oder Brzescie; 2) Grodno und Trocko, Grodna et Trocum, in der W. Trocke; 3) Braslau und Wilna, Braslauia et Vilna, in der W. Vilna.
2. **Das Litthauische Reussen**, Russia Lithuanica, sonst auch Weiß-Reussen genant: und darin
   1) Novogrodeck, Nouogardia, eine grosse Stadt an der Memel.
   2) Mscislaw, Micislauia, eine grosse Stadt an den Russischen Grentzen.
   3) Po-

208 I B. 9 C. anderes St. von Litthauen.

3) Polocz, Polocium, eine grosse und veste [illegible] mit einem Bisthum.
(*) Gr. p. Hier sind fünf Woywodschaften: und zwar so ist 1) Novogrodeck, Nouogardia, in der W. Novogrodeck; 2) Minsk, Minscium, in der W. Minskie; 3) Mohilow und Miscislaw, Mohilouia et Micislauia, in der W. Mscislaw; 4) Witepsk, Vitepocum, in der W. Witepskie; 5) Ptoci, Polocium, in der W. Polockie.

3. **Samogitien**, Samogitia: und darin **Rosienne**, Rohena, die Hauptstadt.
(*) Gr. p.: Birze, Birza; Radzeviliski, Razeuilia; Mednicy, Mednicia; Rosienne, Rosiena.

## IV. Die übrige Beschaffenheit des Landes.

1. Litthauen ist ein waldichtes, und wegen der vielen Moräste nicht eben gar zu gesundes; doch an Honig, Wachs, Getreide, Vieh und Fischen fruchtbares Land: der Bauer und übrige gemeine Mann in demselben aber ein leibeigenes, ungeschicktes und dem Brantweinsauffen ergebenes Volck.
2. Es führet den Titel eines Großherzogthums und ist das andere Hauptheil der Polnischen Republic: doch so, daß es seine eigene Gesetze und Aemter behalten; und der Adel hier eben so viel, als der Polnische in Polen, zu sagen hat.
3. Die Religion ist Römischcatholisch: iedoch mit Lutheranern, Reformirten, Juden und andern Glaubensgenossen gar sehr untermenget. Das

*27.—29. Reproduction from an old German Book on Lithuania "Hieronimi Freyers, Anweisung zur Teutschen Orthographie, 1728"*

*The Union as an Element of Polonization.* The period of the Lithuanian-Polish Commonwealth was one of gradual decay. According to the Polish example, one class — the nobles — prevailed granting no political rights whatever to the other classes. Although stubbornly guarding the country's independence, the nobles, nevertheless, acted in union with the Poles on the social platform. As soon as the common ruler tried to strengthen his position, the nobles of both countries rose like one man, one class, one nation, thus tending to form one community. Since the origin of this class ideology was Polish and had developed in Poland, its etiquette was Polish too and was gradually taken over by the ruling class of XVIIIth century Lithuania. Constantly communicating with the Poles, the Lithuanian nobles became used to speaking Polish and even began to be called Poles, because they participated in the "liberties" (i.e. rights) of the Polish nobility. On the other hand, they never forgot that they were members of the Lithuanian State, the independence of which they were always ready to defend. No wonder that this dual ideology of the XVIIth and XVIIIth centuries did great harm to the national individuality of the people as such and prepared the ground for the later denationalization and separation of the nobility from the common people.

*The Veto Right and Decay of the State.* The one-class form of government of the country produced a deteriorating effect upon the upper classes as well, especially owing to the introduction of the veto right into parliament. The veto right undermined the foundations of the State. It became impossible to pass bills intended for the good of the community. Instigated by foreign powers, many members of parliament frustrated social legislation. Proud of their position and constantly engaged in defending their rights and liberties, the Lithuanian as well as the Polish nobles became demoralized. Nothing mattered except their egotistic selves. The Polish King and Lithuanian Grand-Duke, although chosen by the nobles, was powerless. Even the throne became an object of speculation and fell to the wealthiest aspirant, who succeeded in bribing the greatest number of influential people. The longer this went on, the more the national idea suffered. In the XVIIth century, the nobles made every effort to evade their duties to the State, while in the XVIIIth century, they began to consider it as only a convenient source of enrichment. Everyone's aim was to get the most influential post possible and to govern as many public estates as he could get hold of. This struggle for influence and profitable posts developed into a constant fight of each noble against his brother nobles, in some cases even bearing the character of civil war. Such conditions gave the neighbouring States ample possibility of intruding into the internal affairs of both Poland and Lithuania, thus complicating their life still more. Their prestige and international position

*30. History of Lithuania, printed in 1650 by A. V. Kojalavičius (First History printed in 1582 by Motiejus Strikauskis)*

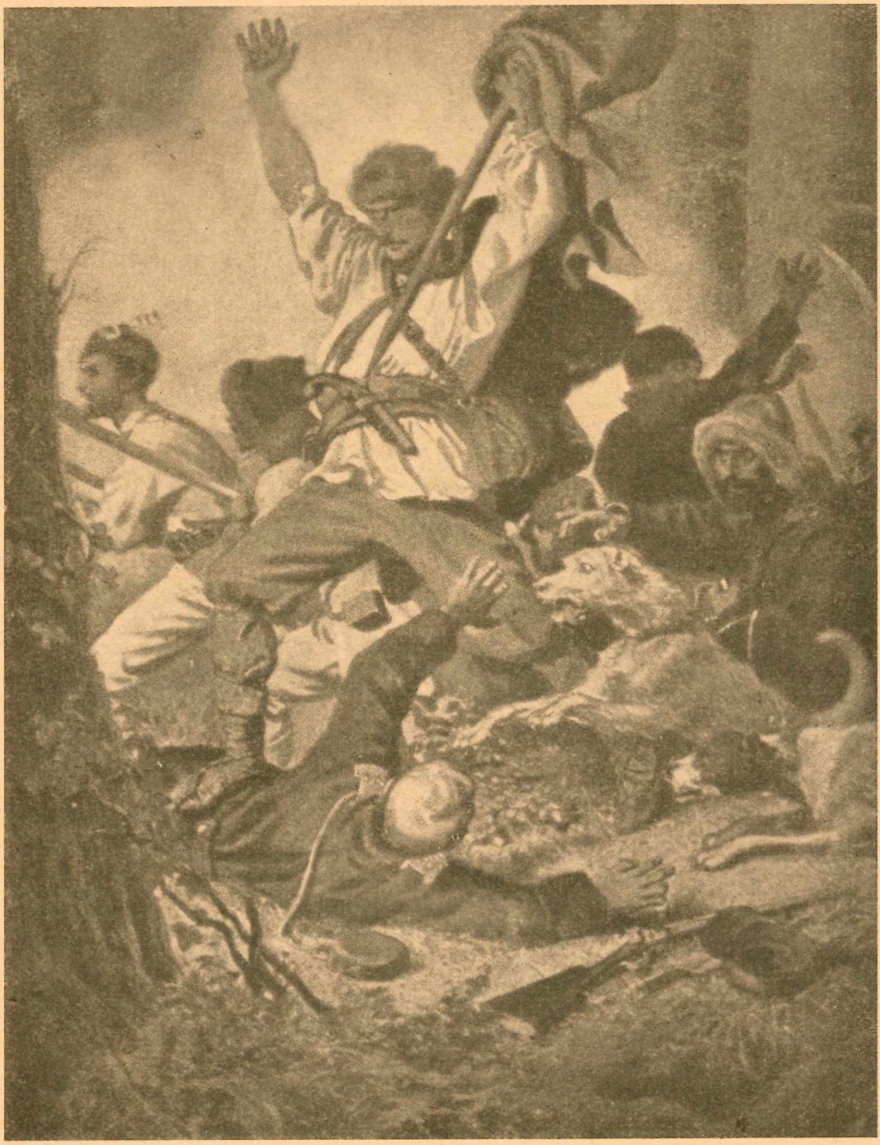
became more and more weakened, until they were finally lost. Towards the end of the XVIIIth century, attempts were made to save the situation and to introduce reforms strengthening the government's position, but it was too late. The neighbouring States, pretending to protect the rights of the nobles (1772, 1793 and 1795), tore pieces from the live body of both countries and appropriated them. Each one of them (Russia, Prussia, and Austria) got a piece of Poland, while almost the whole of Lithuania was annexed by Russia, only a territory west of the river Nemunas being joined to Prussia.

# FINAL POLONIZATION OF THE NOBILITY UNDER RUSSIAN RULE

*Final Polonization of the Nobility under Russian Rule.* Lithuania steps over the threshold of the XIXth century under Russian rule. The left bank of the river Nemunas, the province of Sudavia, had been joined to Prussia when the Lithuanian State fell to pieces. In 1807 Napoleon, creating the Duchy of Warsaw, joined this territory to it, and in 1815 this district came into the hands of the Russian Tsars. When, after the rebellion of 1831, the Polish Kingdom gradually began to disintegrate, Sudavia became the simple province of Suvalki. The relations between the social classes in Lithuania, nevertheless, remained the same. The peasantry bore the yoke of serfs having no rights whatever, while the townsmen were not numerous. In official life, only the old nobles played a role. They desired to regain their lost independence, and, believing that this was possible only if they acted jointly with the Poles, they became more and more assimilated. No political activity being possible in Prussian and Austrian occupied Polish territory, Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, became the Polish political and cultural centre. The University of Vilnius became the very heart of Polish cultural action and, since it supervised all the schools at that time, began spreading the Polish language and spirit throughout the land, believing this to be the only means of successfully opposing and frustrating all efforts to Russianize the country.

*31. The Lithuanian Provinces under Russian domination in "Meyers Zeitungsatlas, 1849" The Western Parts (Prussian Lithuania and Suvalki Region) are showed within the Boundaries of the Kingdoms of Prussia and Poland*

The first to be Polonized in the early XIXth century were the schoolchildren, i.e. the children of the nobles. This generation was educated in the spirit of the old commonwealth and spoke Polish. The Lithuanian and Polish nobles kept together even in emigration. Two rebellions (in 1831 and 1863) took place. These rebellions cost many lives and, alas, resulted in the utter defeat of the Lithuanians and the Poles. After the first rebellion, the University of Vilnius was closed and various restrictive measures were taken; after the second rebellion, the restrictions took on the character of persecutions. All the still existing rights of the nobles were abolished and systematic Russification was begun. This time it was the turn of the common people, whom the Russians felt sure they could succeed in Russianizing, the influence of the nobility having disappeared. A year before the second revolt (1862), serfdom was abolished, and all serfs were freed by 1863. The Tsarist regime was convinced that it would be easy work to Russianize the Lithuanian peasant who had just been freed from bondage. Nowhere in all Russia were the peasantry more supported by the State than in Lithuania, and conflicts between the big landowners and the peasants were, as a rule, decided in favour of the latter. The Russian policy was to destroy the power of the rich Polonized landowners, who had so far ruled Lithuania, and to rely on the mass of the peasants in order to attain their purposes. But they were mistaken. The mass of the Lithuanian peasantry opposed the policy of the government to Russianize them much more passionately than the nobles did. And it was then that the fierce struggle for Lithuanian national and cultural rights began to develop into the struggle for political liberty and ended in the reëstablishment of independent Lithuania.

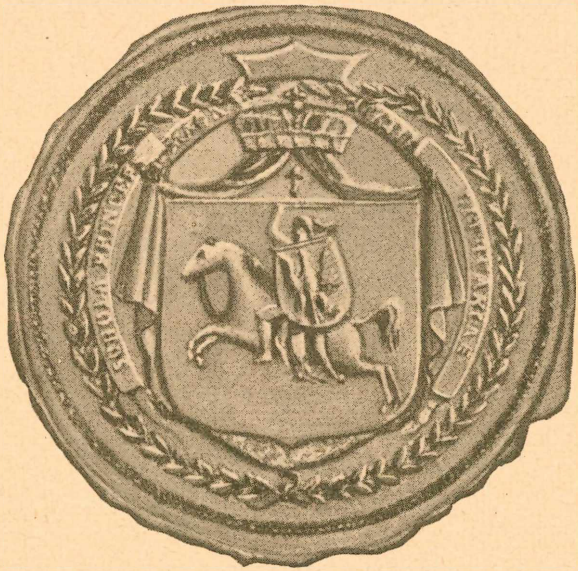


Painted by A. Grottger, XIX th cent.

*32. The Rising against the Russian Occupation in 1863*

*33. General Tadeusz Kosciuszko*
*Leader of the Polish-Lithuanian Rising against the Russian Occupation in 1794 Friend and Adjutant of George Washington, took part in the American War of Independence. Born in Naugardukas (Novogrudok), Lithuania*

*The Lithuanian National Movement and the Nobles.* As has already been pointed out, the old Lithuania had in the course of time become a State ruled by one class only, namely the nobles, and it was only this class that manifested itself in the political and public life of the country, while the mass of the peasantry (the percentage of townsmen was insignificant) led the life of serfs having no political rights. Through their intercourse with the Poles, through their common class interests with the Polish nobility and through the common fight for their lost independence, the Lithuanian nobles had become completely Polonized and had turned away from their national culture as well as their own national ideals. A tragic rift had taken place. The people was left without any leadership. Fighting against the Russification of the country, the Lithuanian nobles made common cause with the Poles and considered the struggle of the common people for their Lithuanian culture and ideals as an unreasonable splitting of power or, in other words, "Lithuanomania". No doubt, this circumstance



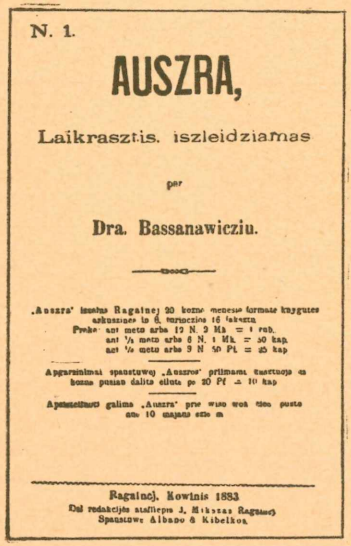
*34. Seal of the Lithuanian State Schools, XVIIIth cent.*

was a grave obstacle in the way of the Lithuanian national movement, but it was not strong enough either to stop or to break it.

*New Leaders.* During the rule of the Polonized Lithuanian nobility, Lithuanian culture could manifest itself only among the common people and, up to the first half of the XIXth century, among the lesser gentry, which had not become entirely Polonized. It can be easily understood that under such conditions neither national Lithuanian literature nor national art could flourish. But with the beginning of the XIXth century, the number of educated people of common extraction began steadily to grow and these people took an ever increasing part in the struggle for their national rights. With the abolition of serfdom and the admission of peasant children to schools, the number of educated people grew by leaps and bounds. This fact coinciding with the intensified wave of Russification after the revolt of 1863, the required national leaders were at disposal at that critical moment for the benefit of the Lithuanian movement for liberty.

*35. Emilija Plater-Plateryté, Heroic Leader in the Rising against the Russian Occupation in 1831*

*Attempts at Russification.* Having destroyed the power of the nobles, the Tsarist Government immediately tried to take the common people in hand. The Polish schools which had so far been run exclusively for the children of the nobility, were Russified and nationalized by the Government. The Lithuanian country schools were also closed and the children advised to attend the newly organized Russian elementary schools, where even religionus instruction was not permitted in Lithuanian. Russian was everywhere made the official language. All organizations and meetings were prohibited. In fact, everything was prohibited which could possibly hinder the Russification of the country and alienate it from Russia or the Orthodox Confession. Thus no permission was granted to build new Catholic churches or to repair old ones; no way-side crosses, which had so far been such a characteristic feature of the country, might be erected. All church processions were prohibited and the priests forbidden to deliver public sermons. Besides, 32 churches, 52 chapels, and about 20 monasteries were closed at one swoop, the accusation being that they were suspected of having taken part in the revolt. Everywhere Russian colonists, imported in ever growing numbers, were given privileges.



N. 1.

AUSZRA,

Laikrasztis. iszleidziamas

per

Dra. Bassanawiczių.

„Auszra" iszeina Ragainej 20 kozno menesio formate knygutes
Prekė: ant meto arba 12 N. 3 Mk. = 1 rub.
ant ½ meto arba 6 N. 1 Mk. = 50 kap.
ant ¼ meto arba 3 N. 50 Pf. = 25 kap.

Apgarsinimai spaustuwej „Auszros" priimami tuoztuojo ir
kozna puslapi dalita eilute po 20 Pf. = 10 kap.

Apturetiwej galima „Auszra" pre wisu wot tien pusto
am. 10 mapato ezio m.

Ragainej. Kowinis 1883
Dal redakcijos atsiliepus J. Mikszas Ragainej
Spaustuwe Albano & Kibelkos

*36. The first secret Newspaper printed in Prussian Lithuania during the Prohibition of printed matter 1865—1905*

*The Struggle for the Lithuanian Press.* The attempts of the Tsarist Government to Russianize the country were crowned by the infamous prohibition in 1865(4) to print Lithuanian books and newspapers in Latin characters. The Government itself began printing Lithuanian prayerbooks and other religious literature in Russian characters. The text having been intentionally changed in some places and Orthodox liturgical prayers inserted, not only the Lithuanian community, but even those of the clergy who had become partially Polonized, rose in protest. Thus a most intense struggle for the Lithuanian printed word began. No one would even touch the books that were either very cheaply or even gratuitously distributed by the Government. Parents refused to send their children to school and taught them in their mother-tongue, at home, although they were persecuted and severely punished if caught in doing so. Since no Lithuanian books could be printed openly, steps were taken to print them in secret, and they were soon being smuggled from abroad, mostly from neighbouring East Prussia, and privately sold among the people. During a period of forty years until the prohibition was lifted, hundreds and even thousands of devoted patriots made book-smuggling their life-work. Although many a Lithuanian "book-carrier" suffered imprisonment or deportation to far-off Siberia, this activity never ceased, but, on the con-

*37. Russian Colonists in Lithuania*

trary, gained in intensity. During forty years, the whole country was secretly supplied with religious and secular literature as well as with periodicals from abroad, which not only gave the Lithuanian movement its particular character, but even directed it. It is only natural that the men and women who produced, smuggled and circulated Lithuanian books, at the risk of their lives, are greatly honoured by the people. Some of these veterans who lived to see Lithuania independent, were given high honours and pensions.

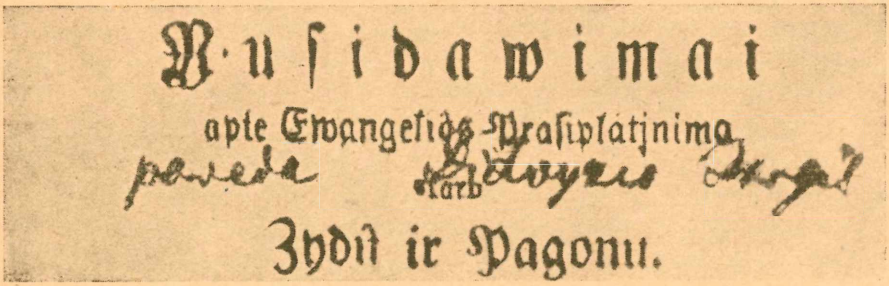
## THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE STRUGGLE FOR NATIONAL RIGHTS

*The Participants in the Struggle for National Rights.* The main Lithuanian endeavour at the end of the XIXth century and the beginning of the XXth century, was first of all a struggle for the printed word. But this does not mean that the whole of the Lithuanian problem had been forgotten. On the contrary, it was this very problem that was discussed in the secret press as well as by private organizations. The Lithuanian community consisted of various differing groups and political parties, but everyone took an equal share and interest in the struggle for the national rights. The leaders were naturally the educated people who were constantly increasing in number. These patriots devoted their lives to the national interests. Possessing very little — they were the children of hard-working peasants — these people sacrificed the little they had for the common cause. The conditions of life were hard. No Lithuanian, no matter what his profession, was allowed to hold a public appointment in his native country. Prospects for various specialists to live in the Russia of those days were excellent, because the country was very backward, but Lithuanian students used to choose only professions which gave them the hope of staying in Lithuania thus having the possibility of participating in the national struggle. Thus most of the young people studied medicine, law or theology and became physicians, lawyers or priests. None of these occupations was very profitable, but they enabled people to reside in Lithuania and to work for the good of their compatriots.

*Dr. Vincas Kudirka (1858 — 1899)*
*The Great Fighter for Freedom*

*Prelate Jonas Maironis (1862—1932)*
*Poet of Lithuania's Rebirth*

*First Results.* The great sacrifices and the resistance of the whole nation frustrated the efforts of the Tsarist Government. This failure to Russify the country was already clearly evident at the close of the XIXth century but, not wishing to admit defeat, the Government did not abrogate the decree prohibiting the printing of books nor the other restrictive measures. Only at the critical moment, when Russia was involved in war with Japan and the threat of political trouble arose in the whole of the Russian Empire, the prohibition of printing Lithuanian books was lifted on the 7th of May, 1904. After the revolt of 1905, which had repercussions in Lithuania as well, the Lithuanian people was given certain liberties. The demands of the Lithuanian congress which, during the general revolutionary movement, assembled in Vilnius December 4th to 6th, 1905, that the country be given autonomy, were not satisfied. Nevertheless a certain change of circumstances made a wider cultural and political activity possible. Therefore, by the time when World War I broke out in 1914, great progress had been made in culture, politics and organization.

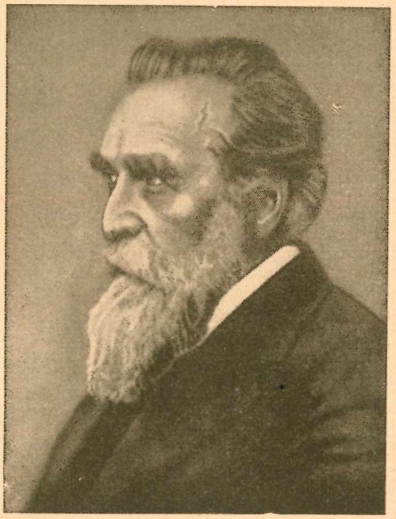



*40. One of the first Lithuanian Newspapers, printed in 1832*

*41. One of the first Lithuanian Newspapers printed 1885 in USA by the Lithuanian Refugees (1795—1915)*

*42. First Lithuanian Newspaper after the lifting of the Ban, printed in 1905*

# WORLD WAR I AND THE RESTORATION OF INDEPENDENCE



*Dr. Jonas Basanavičius (1851—1927)*
*The Patriarch of Lithuanian Independence*

*World War I and the Restoration of Independence.* The first World War inflicted deep wounds on Lithuania. The country, which during 1914 and 1915 was the battle ground of the Russian and German armies, was sadly devastated. The people then had to endure a long and cruel German occupation. Many of the inhabitants were forced to flee to Russia, where certain of their organizational centers were also transferred. But the great majority of the people stayed in Lithuania and many of the cultural and other centers of national life remained in Vilnius. At first none of these centers could deal with politics. Those in Russia were bound by war restrictions and, besides, had their hands full in just caring for the destitute and homeless mass of their compatriots, while the centers left in Lithuania were restricted by the severe occupation regime which forbade cultural, not to speak of political activity. Things improved somewhat when the Tsar was dethroned after the revolution of 1917, and the Germans

N u t a r i m a s.

Lietuvos Taryba savo posėdyje vasario 16 d. 1918 m. vienu balsu nutarė kreiptis: į Rusijos, Vokietijos ir kitų valstybių vyriausybės šiuo pareiškimu:

Lietuvos Taryba, kaip vienintelė lietuvių tautos atstovybė, remdamos pripažintaja tautų apsisprendimo teise ir lietuvių Vilniaus konferencijos nutarimu rugsėjo mėn. 18-23 d. 1917 metais, skelbia atstatanti nepriklausoma demokratiniais pamatais sutvarkytą Lietuvos valstybę su sostine Vilniuje ir ta valstybę atskirianti nuo visų valstybinių ryšių, kurie yra buvę su kitomis tautomis.

Drauge Lietuvos Taryba pareiškia, kad Lietuvos valstybės pamatus ir jos santykius su kitomis valstybėmis privalo galutinai nustatyti kiek galima graičiau sušauktas steigiamasis seimas, demokratiniu budu visų jos gyventojų išrinktas.

Lietuvos Taryba pranešdama apie tai ..... vyriausybei, prašo pripažinti nepriklausomą Lietuvos valstybę.

Vilniuje, vasario 16 d. 1918 m.

*44. Declaration of Independence, signed by Lithuanian Council at Vilnius February 16, 1918*

began to have doubts about their victory. When the President of the United States, Woodrow Wilson, declared that every nation must be given the right of self-determination, the Germans, knowing the Lithuanian desire to free themselves from the Russian yoke, undertook certain actions which were to bind Lithuania to Germany. If they succeeded in their aim, they felt sure they would be given Lithuania at the Peace Conference. With this in mind, permission was given to summon a Lithuanian Conference from September 18 to 22, 1917, in Vilnius. Unfortunately for the German plans, the assembled representatives of the people refused to make the desired declaration. Disappointed in their secret hopes, the Germans, nevertheless, permitted a National Council to be formed, trusting to attain their ends by this means. Fearing that all activity would be prohibited if they did not discuss the above mentioned German plans, the Council agreed to consider the question but did not promise anything, saying that only the Constituent Assembly would be competent to decide the matter. During the discussions, various forms of relations with Germany were proposed: a personal union with the Prussians, a State governed by a member of the Hohenzollern dynasty and bound to Germany by various conventions, etc. Convinced that they could not get the Germans to agree to an absolutely independent Lithuania, and certain that the defeat of Germany was inevitable, the National Council decided to declare Lithuania an independent democratic State, free from all ties with Germany or any other State. This happened on February 16th, 1918.

This proclamation, which was announced to the world through secret channels, was the foundation on which the independent State was organized later on. It expressed the will of the whole nation and was in accordance with the declarations of the Lithuanians dispersed abroad. The conference of Lithuanian refugees in Petrograd (June 9th, 1917) acclaimed this declaration, while that of the representatives of Lithuanian organizations in the United States of America in New York (March 3 and 4, 1918) addressed a petition to the American Government requesting it to recognize Lithuania as an independent State. The same request was expressed by all the other Lithuanian emigrant colonies which, meanwhile, acknowledged the Council as the supreme organ of the Lithuanian nation.

## DIFFICULTIES IN ESTABLISHING THE STATE

*45. Antanas Smetona (1874—1944)*
*First and last President of Lithuania*
*Died in exile in USA*

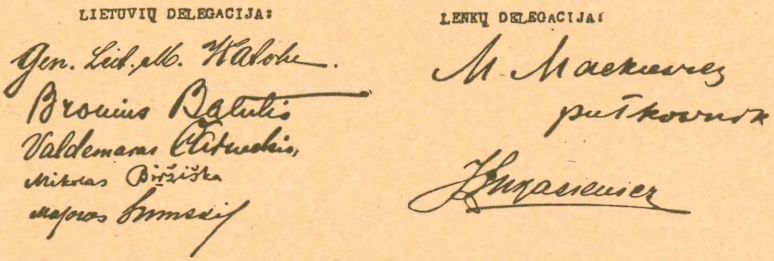
*Difficulties in Establishing the State.* The German occupation government forbade all activity on the part of the Lithuanian National Council. It held onto this policy even when the coming defeat of Germany became quite evident and the occupation forces had to withdraw from the country. The Lithuanians at first received no help from outside and had a very hard time in organizing their State. As the demoralized German troops retired, the Russian Red Army occupied a large part of the country, including the capital, Vilnius. The first Lithuanian Government, formed on 5th November 1918, had to move from Vilnius to Kaunas. Owing to the extraordinary national enthusiasm and to support obtained chiefly from the United States, it was possible to raise an army and to save the country at the eleventh hour. By the end of 1919, this army had succeeded in driving the Red Army out of Lithuania and, together with the Latvians, in defeating the other enemy, made up of units of the German army which did not wish to leave the Baltic States, and of adherents of Tsarist Russia.

*46. Aleksandras Stulginskis (1885 — 1942)*
*Second President of Lithuania*
*Done away with in Siberia*

*International Relations*. On July 12, 1920 Soviet Russia in the Peace Treaty signed with Lithuania, recognized the latter as an independent State with Vilnius as her capital and including the province of Gardinas. Thus the foundation of friendly relations between the two States was laid. Unfriendly relations existed between Lithuania and her Polish neighbour that, in April 1919, seized the Lithuanian capital and part of the Vilnius province by force. In the summer of 1920, the Red Army drove the Poles out of Vilnius and, in accordance with the Peace Treaty, returned the city to Lithuania.

No sooner had fortune changed in favour of the Poles, than the latter reoccupied Vilnius on October, 1920, in spite of the neutrality maintained by Lithuania during the Polish-Russian conflict and the accord they themselves had made with Lithuania under the auspices of the League of Nations, two days previously. Having seized Vilnius, the Poles began to push forward into inner Lithuania. The Lithuanian army, taken by surprise, could pass over to attack only by the second half of November. It was then too late to recover Vilnius, since a commission of the League of

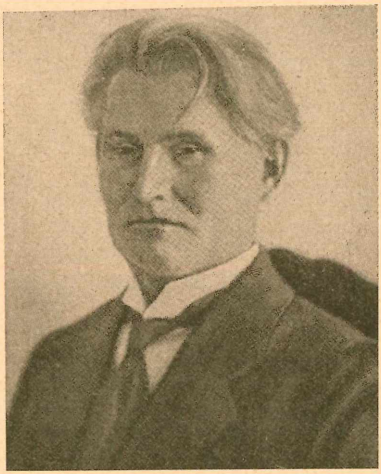
Nations had stopped hostilities and charged international bodies with the solution of this conflict. Since the Poles did not acknowledge the competence of any international body to settle the dispute, Lithuania broke off all relations with Poland. This state of neither war nor peace existed between Lithuania and Poland up to March, 1938, when a Polish ultimatum demanded the resumption of diplomatic relations, and Lithuania acceded, for the sake of peace.




*47. Signatures to the Suvalkai (Suvalki) Treaty*

*After World War I the Frontiers Delimination Treaty between Lithuania and Poland was signed at Suvalkai on October 7th, 1920. Two Days later General Želigowski occupied Vilnius and Surroundings by secret Order of the Polish Government. For this Reason the Government of Lithuania was transferred to Kaunas*

Owing to the constant intrigues of the Poles, Lithuania was late in taking her place among the States of the World. The United States of America were the first to recognize Lithuania de jure (July 28, 1921). Some months later, she was admitted to the League of Nations, and in the following year all the States recognized her. When, in 1923, a special convention of the Allies attributed to Lithuania the Territory of Klaipéda (Memel) which had been detached from Germany by the Treaty of Versailles as preponderantly Lithuanian in character, and temporarily administered by France, the Lithuanian international problems except those concerning Vilnius and her territory were solved. That the Territory of Klaipéda desired to belong to Lithuania, was clearly manifested by the revolt of her inhabitants in favour of Lithuania in January, 1923.



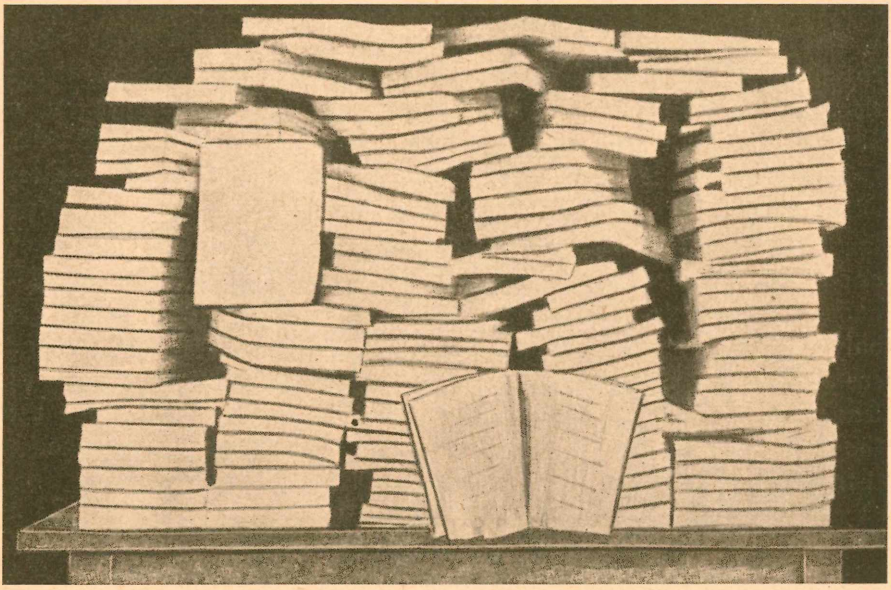
*48. Dr. Kazys Grinius (born on 1866)*
*Third President of Lithuania*
*Now living in exile in USA*

*Internal Affairs.* While still engaged in solving important international problems, internal affairs were not neglected by the Lithuanian Government. On May 15, 1920, the Constituent Assembly met, having been elected by direct, secret, equal vote. After working for two years, the Constituent Assembly adopted a Constitution of the country and then dissolved, giving place to the regular parliament, in Lithuanian, *Seimas*. One of the most important achievements of the Seimas was the Agrarian Reform which revolutionized the country's agricultural economy. The large landed estates were broken up into small farms, which were distributed to people who either had no land or too little to make farming profitable. The largest units left, generally did not exceed 80 hectares (200 acres). The only exceptions were model farms. This reform affected about 500.000 hectares. It took several years to carry out this plan and during this period the original law was changed permitting units up to 150 hectares. The first as well as the second land reform law provided compensation for expropriated land.

A very important incident in the economic life of independent Lithuania was the introduction of Lithuanian currency in the autumn of 1922. The monetary unit, the litas, was worth $1/10$ of a U.S.A. gold dollar.

Having laid a solid foundation for the finances of the country, the successive Lithuanian Governments never swerved from their original careful financial and economic policy and thereby saved Lithuania from the economic crises and the wave of inflation which swept almost the whole of Europe.

Under the Tsarist regime, Lithuania had been a neglected corner of the enormous but backward Russian Empire. Independent Lithuania was faced with the great problem of making up for 120 years of neglect and forced separation from Western influences. She had to work hard to raise her cultural and economic level to the better western standards. For twenty-two years, people laboured unremittingly and achieved wonders in both culture and economy. They worked with energy and enthusiasm, for were they not, at long last, free again? They, even as their brother Baltic peoples, were prosperous and progressive and had faith in the future.



*49. Petition signed in 1919—1921 by 1.000.000 Lithuanians in USA asking the President to confirm the Restoration of Lithuania's Independence*

*The Catastrophe.* But the skies of Europe which had been darkening for some time, became completely black. Nazi-Germany was on the rampage. After Austria and Czecho-Slovakia came the turn of Lithuania. In March, 1939, Germany brutally tore the Territory of Klaipėda from Lithuania, depriving her of her only good seaport. And then came the Second World War. The civilized world reeled under this catastrophe. To Lithuania and her sister Baltic States, the disaster was measureless. They tried desperately to remain neutral, but that did not save these innocent victims of imperialistic aggression. They lost the exercise of their sovereignty, they had to suffer three successive foreign occupations, countries were terribly ravaged, their people in great part dispersed: deported to the farthermost regions of Siberia, deported for slave labour to Germany or scattered all over Europe. The War is over, but the Baltic States are still under foreign rule. Their peoples are still struggling desperately, not only for liberty but for life itself. Their misery is boundless, but they are sustained by faith in the principles of right and justice proclaimed by the leaders of the great Western Democracies. They fervently hope that the day is not far distant when these great principles will be applied to them, too.

Dr. A. Šlažoka

# APPENDIX

Von deutscher Seite wird das völlige politische Desinteressement an diesen Gebieten erklärt.

4) Dieses Protokoll wird von beiden Seiten streng geheim behandelt werden.

Moskau, den 23. August 1939.

Für die Deutsche Reichsregierung:

In Vollmacht der Regierung der UdSSR:

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Dieser Vertrag wird ratifiziert und die Ratifikationsurkunden werden sobald wie möglich in Berlin ausgetauscht werden. Der Vertrag tritt mit seiner Unterzeichnung in Kraft.

254447

Ausgefertigt in doppelter Urschrift in deutscher und russischer Sprache.

Moskau, den 28. September 1939.

Für die Deutsche Reichsregierung:

In Vollmacht der Regierung der UdSSR.:

*52.—53. Secret Documents sealing the Fate of Lithuania*
*The first of them delivers Lithuania into the Hands of Germany, signed in Moscow between Molotov and Ribbentrop on August 23, 1939, while the second trades Lithuania to Russia, signed on September 28, 1939*

Сов.Секретно.

# П Р И К А З

## НАРОДНОГО КОМИССАРА ГОСУДАРСТВЕННОЙ БЕЗОПАСНОСТИ ЛССР за 1941 год.

№ 0022 от 25 апреля 1941 год. гор. Каунас.

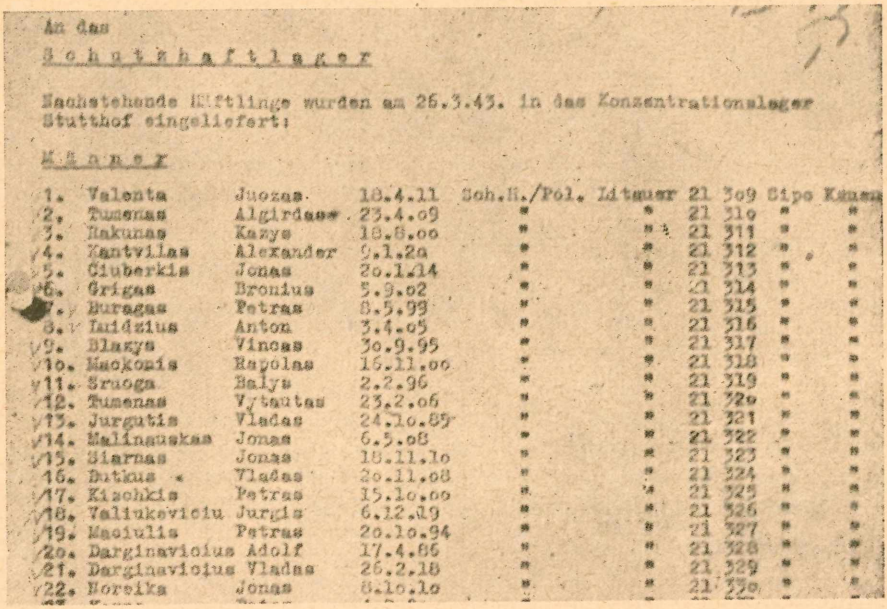
На органы НКГВ Литвы партией и правительством возложена боевая задача - очистить Литовскую ССР от контрреволюционного и вражеского элемента.

Эту важнейшую политическую задачу мы сможем успешно и в короткий срок выполнить только при наличии хорошо налаженного оперативного учета.

Практика работы НКГБ ЛССР показывает, что наиболее крупные и в прошлом активные деятели буржуазных органов влас-

*52. Secret Soviet (NKVD) Deportation Order (1940—1941 and 1944 to date'*

*53. One of the Shambles of the Soviet Occupation (Praveniškiai, 1941)*



An das

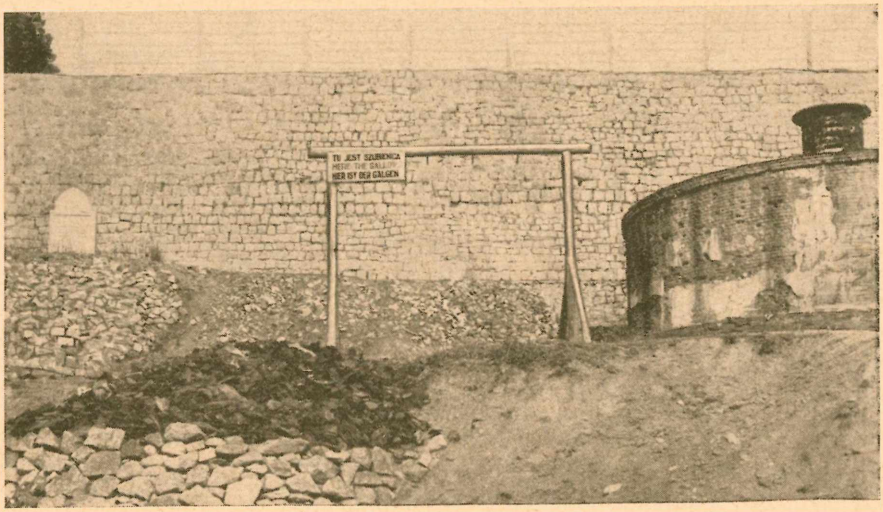
Schutzhaftlager

Nachstehende Häftlinge wurden am 26.3.43. in das Konzentrationslager Stutthof eingeliefert:

Männer

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Valenta | Juozas | 18.4.11 | Soh.H./Pol. | Litauer | 21 | 309 | Sipo Kaunas |
| 2. | Tumenas | Algirdas | 23.4.09 | " | " | 21 | 310 | " " |
| 3. | Nakunas | Kazys | 18.8.00 | " | " | 21 | 311 | " " |
| 4. | Kantvilas | Alexander | 9.1.20 | " | " | 21 | 312 | " " |
| 5. | Ciuberkis | Jonas | 20.1.14 | " | " | 21 | 313 | " " |
| 6. | Grigas | Bronius | 5.9.02 | " | " | 21 | 314 | " " |
| 7. | Buragas | Petras | 8.5.99 | " | " | 21 | 315 | " " |
| 8. | Laidzius | Anton | 3.4.05 | " | " | 21 | 316 | " " |
| 9. | Blazys | Vincas | 30.9.95 | " | " | 21 | 317 | " " |
| 10. | Mackonis | Napolas | 16.11.00 | " | " | 21 | 318 | " " |
| 11. | Sruoga | Balys | 2.2.96 | " | " | 21 | 319 | " " |
| 12. | Tumenas | Vytautas | 23.2.06 | " | " | 21 | 320 | " " |
| 13. | Jurgutis | Vladas | 24.10.89 | " | " | 21 | 321 | " " |
| 14. | Malinauskas | Jonas | 6.5.08 | " | " | 21 | 322 | " " |
| 15. | Siarnas | Jonas | 18.11.10 | " | " | 21 | 323 | " " |
| 16. | Butkus | Vladas | 20.11.08 | " | " | 21 | 324 | " " |
| 17. | Kisohkis | Petras | 15.10.00 | " | " | 21 | 325 | " " |
| 18. | Valiukeviciu | Jurgis | 6.12.09 | " | " | 21 | 326 | " " |
| 19. | Maciulis | Petras | 20.10.94 | " | " | 21 | 327 | " " |
| 20. | Darginavicius | Adolf | 17.4.86 | " | " | 21 | 328 | " " |
| 21. | Darginavicius | Vladas | 26.2.18 | " | " | 21 | 329 | " " |
| 22. | Noreika | Jonas | 8.10.10 | " | " | 21 | 330 | " " |

*54. Secret Nazi (SS) Deportation Order (1941—1944)*




*55. Flossenbürg, one of the Nazi Concentration Camps*

*56. Part of the Lithuanian Underground Press during the Russian-German-Russian Occupations, 1940 to date*

*57. Lithuanian Refugee and D.P.-Press in Exile in Germany*

**D. P.**

**Identification Card**

Name_____ Date of birth_____ Age____
Name Geburtsdatum Alter

Height_____ Weight_____ Hair_____ Eyes_____
Größe Gewicht Haar Augen

Nationality _____ D P Registration No._____
Nationalität D P Registratur No.

_____
D P Signature / D P Unterschrift

Scars or identifying marks
Narben oder besondere Merkmale

_____
_____

Fingerprint R. Thumb
Fingerabdruck R. Daumen

Issued at_____ Camp No._____ Date_____
Ausgestellt in No. des Lagers Datum

Repatriated to_____ Date_____
Rücktransportiert nach Datum

_____
Name and Rank of Issuing U. S.
Camp Commander or UNRRA Official
Name und Dienstgrad des Lager-
Kommandanten oder der UNRRA Behörde

Validation date_____ Official Stamp
Gültigkeitsdatum Amtlicher Stempel

INSTRUCTIONS.

1. Repatriation and validation entries must be authenticated with official stamp.
2. This card valid only at D.P. camp or place where issued.
3. This card must be carried on the person at all times.
4. THIS CARD MUST BE PRODUCED IN ORDER TO DRAW MONTHLY RATION CARD.

ANORDNUNG.

1. Rücktransport- und Gültigkeitsvermerke müssen mit amtlichen Stempeln beglaubigt werden.
2. Diese Karte ist nur in dem D.P. Lager gültig, in dem sie ausgestellt wurde.
3. Diese Karte muß man immer mit sich führen.
4. DIESE KARTE MUSS ZUR MONATLICHEN LEBENSMITTEL KARTENAUSGABE VORGEZEIGT WERDEN

AGPS-3317-2-46-500 M 33539

*58.—59. D. P. Identification Card. A Novelty in International Law*

*60. One of the Lithuanian D. P.-Camps in Germany (Spakenberg)*

# STATISTICAL

Comparative Areas:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Belgium | 11.752 | sq. miles |
| Switzerland | 15.975 | „ „ |
| **Lithuania** | **34.489** | „ „ |
| N.York State, USA | 49.204 | sq. miles |

Population in 1939:

| | |
|---|---|
| Region of Vilnius | 1.600.000 inhab. |
| „ „ Kaunas | 2.429.760 „ |
| „ „ Klaipéda | 151.860 „ |
| **Total** | **4.181.860 inhab.** |

The Population by Race:

| | |
|---|---|
| **Lithuanians** | **72.10%** |
| Poles | 8,04% |
| Jews | 7,65% |
| Russians and White Russians | 5,35% |
| Others | 6,86% |

The Population by Religion:

| | |
|---|---|
| Roman Catholic | 81,20% |
| Jewish | 7,65% |
| Greek Orthodox | 5,35% |
| Protestant | 4,25% |
| Others | 1,55% |

76% of the inhabitants are engaged in agriculture

89% of farmers are proprietors of their land

Size of farms:

| 2—20 acres | 20—70 acres | 70—240 acres | 240 and over |
|---|---|---|---|
| 34,6% | 55,5% | 9,4% | 0,5% |

Stock-raising and dairy-farming are the main sources of income. Principal cereal cultures are: rye, wheat, barley, and oats. Grasses, flax, and roots are also grown extensively.

Balanced budgets, stable currency based on gold, and favourable trade balances Monetary unit **1 Litas** abt. **$** 0,2 (1938).

Legislative power is vested in Parliament, the executive in the President of the Republic and the Cabinet.

**These statistics do not include Prussian Lithuania.** In spite of intensive foreign colonization, the latter has preserved its Lithuanian character to date. Owing to World War II, it was impossible to obtain data about this Lithuanian country. An important part of the inhabitants of Prussian Lithuania has altogether changed on account of repatriation, deportation and war. The former statistics of the Prussian Government does not act up for political reasons.

We only mention a few towns: Galdapé (Goldap)*, Gumbiné (Gumbinnen), Įsrutis (Insterburg), Karaliaučius (Königsberg), Labguva (Labiau), Stalupénai (Stallupönen), Tilzé (Tilsit).

* In parenthese, we give the German or Slav names usually found on maps.

# ECONOMICAL

**Exports:**

amber goods, apples, bacon, barley, beef, beer, bristles, butter, candies, cardboard, casein, cattle, cellulose, clover-seed, cranberries, cheese, chemicals, chocolate, eggs, feathers, fish, flax, flax-tow, fruit juices, fur skins, furniture, game, goose-fat, hemp, hides, honey, horses, horse-hair, yeast, leather, leather-goods, lentils, linseed, liqueurs, lobsters, malt, match-splints, meat, medicinal plants, milk-powder, mushrooms, mutton, hams, oats, onions, packing paper, parquet flooring, peas, pigs, plywood, pork, pork-lard, potatoes, potato-flour, poultry, rubber goods, rabbits, rye, sawn timber, syrups, tares, textiles, tinned milk, tinned vegetables, turpentine, wheat.

World export index per capita in 1938: $ 13.30.

**Imports:**

agricultural machines, aluminum, asbestos, asphalt, basic slag, bicycles, briquettes, cables, cast iron, cement, clocks and watches, coal, cocoa, coffee, coke, combustion engines, cork, copper, copra, cotton yarns, chalk, china, dairy machinery, dyes, drawing materials, drugs, electric machinery, fancy goods, glassware, grapes, haberdashery, herrings, iron, jewellery, lead, lemons, linoleum, locomotives, mineral oils, motor vehicles, musical instruments, optical articles, oranges, paraffin, perfumery, petroleum, rubber goods, salt, scientific instruments, sewing machines, silk goods, spices, sports goods, steam boilers, sulphur, superphosphates, tanning materials, tea, textiles, tin, tobacco, tools, tractors, wallpaper, watercraft, wire, wireless apparatus, woollen yarns, zinc.

World import index per capita in 1938: $ 11.10.

**The Lithuanian products were exported to the following countries:**

**Europe:** Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, France, Germany, Greece, Great Britain, Iceland, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Switzerland, Sweden.

**America:** USA, Panama.

**Africa:** Congo, Egypt, Morocco, Tunis.

**Asia:** Indo-China, Japan, Palestine, Syria.

*During the period from 1920 to 1938, exports increased by 500%. Lithuania took the 7th place in the European production of rye, the 3th place in world-production of flax, and the first place as to foodstuffs in excess of consumption.*

## THE CHIEF CITIES AND INDUSTRIES

**Vilnius,** the capital, 208.000 inhab. Industries: furs (leading in eastern Europe), leather, glass, iron, wood, paper, tobacco, spirits, soap.

**Gardinas,** 64.000 inhab. Industries: cloth, tobacco, tanning, cereals.

**Isrutis.** Industries: linen weaving, agricultural machines.

**Karaliaučius,** trading and transit-port. Industries: locomotives, wagons, lac, cereals, tobacco, cellulose, fish.

**Kaunas,** 158.000 inhab. Industries: tobacco, beer, wood, textiles, rubber goods, iron, soap, matches, food.

**Klaipéda,** trading-port, 50.000 inhab. Industries: cellulose, textiles, superphosphates, iron, tobacco, fish.

**Naugardukas,** 27.000 inhab. Industries: cereal, spirits, iron.

**Palvininkai.** Amber and amber goods industry.

**Piliava.** Ship building industry.

**Šiauliai,** 32.000 inhab. Industries: leather, shoes, candies, chocolate, beer, meat.

**Suvalkai,** 31.000 inhab. Industries: textiles, cloth, spirits.

## EDUCATION*

Academy of Science at Vilnius. Academy of Arts at Vilnius. Academy of Agriculture at Dotnuva. Academy of Veterinary Science at Kaunas-Viljampolé. Vilnius University. Kaunas University. Institute of Physics and Chemistry at Kaunas-Aleksotas. Institute of Arts at Kaunas. Institute of Lithuanian Philology at Vilnius. Pedagogic Institute at Klaipéda (afterwards at Vilnius). Institute of Commerce at Klaipéda. Institute of Physical Culture at Kaunas. State Opera at Vilnius. State Opera at Kaunas. State Theatres at Vilnius, Kaunas, Šiauliai, Klaipéda, Panevéžys and many amateur Theatres. High Schools for Music at Vilnius, Kaunas, Šiauliai, Klaipéda. Various Museums and Public Libraries.

9 Seminaries for Teachers. 9 Commercial Schools. 2 Technical High Schools. 33 Industrial Schools. About 50 Agricultural Schools (Dairy College at Belvéderis, Animal Husbandry College at Gruzdžiai, Forestry College at Alytus, Land Reclamation College at Kedainiai, High School of Rural Domestic Science for Women at Dotnuva, etc.). Various Courses for the Farmers. Over 1.000 young Farmers' Clubs. Lyceums, Boarding Schools, etc. Elementary Education, lasting 6 Years, with Classes in Agricultural Science, is compulsory.

* Except Prussian Lithuania.

# ETHNOGRAPHICAL AND POLITICAL FRONTIERS OF LITHUANIA

# THE MOST FAMOUS RESORTS

**Seaside Resorts:** Giruliai, Juodkrantė, Krantas, Nida, Palanga, Smiltynė.

**Mineral Spas:** Berčiūnai, Birštonas, Druskininkai, Smardonė.

**Other Resorts:** Alytus, Kulautuva, Panemunė, Trakai, Ungura, Verkiai, Zarasai.

# IN THE NAME OF THE LIBERATION . . .

| | |
|---|---|
| Repatriated 1940 to Germany | 40.000 |
| Deported 1940—1941 to Siberia | 40.000 |
| Deported 1941—1944 to labour camps in Germany | 108.000 |
| Deported 1941—1944 to Germany, concentration camps and prisons | 32.200 |
| Perished 1941—1945 in concentration camps and prisons in Germany | 14.840 |
| Killed 1941—1944 for race motives by Nazis (93.4% Lithuanian Jews) | 300.000 |
| Deported 1944—1947 to Siberia | 150.000 |
| Repatriated 1945—1947 to Poland | 100.000 |
| **Total loss of Lithuanian citizens during World War II: more than** | **700.000** |
| At present are living in D.P.-camps in Germany | 70.000 |
| At present are deported to Siberia monthly | 2—3.000 |

# ILLUSTRATIONS

*Photographs by V. Augustinas, J. Bačkaitis, J. Bulhakas, A. Giedraitis, K. Gineitis (from „Lithuanian Quality Products"), O. Lauciené, A. Naruševičius, G. Orentas, J. Povilaitis, A. Prapuolenis, V. Račkauskas, V. Rasiûnas, A. Varnas, E. Zdanauskas, and others.*

# COUNTRY AND NATION

Country Idyll

Young Birches and old Farm *(Opposite)*

Back from the Field!

A Farm

Nemunas, the biggest Lithuanian River in Spring . . .

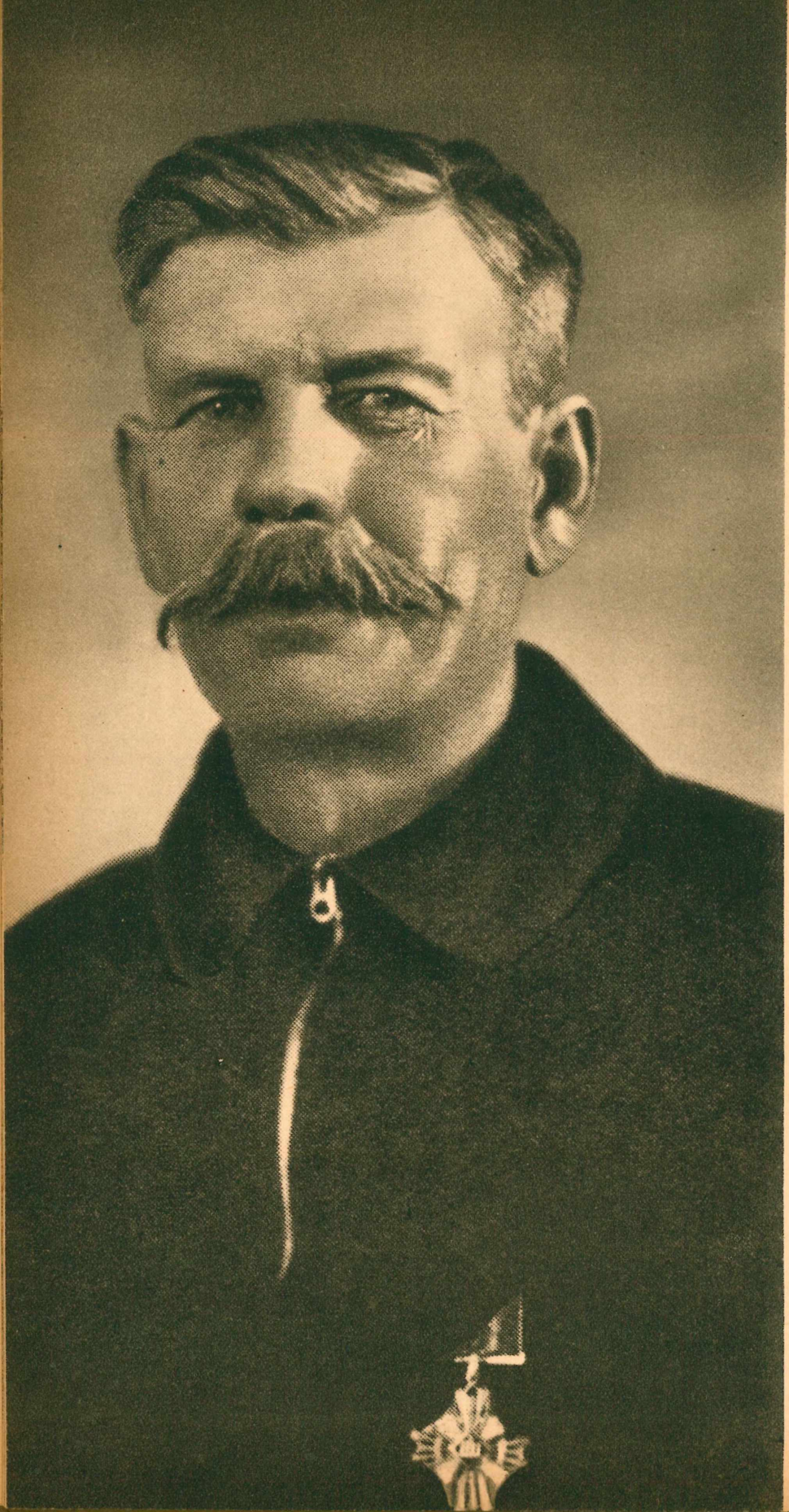
. . . and in Winter *(Opposite)*

At the Spinning-Wheel

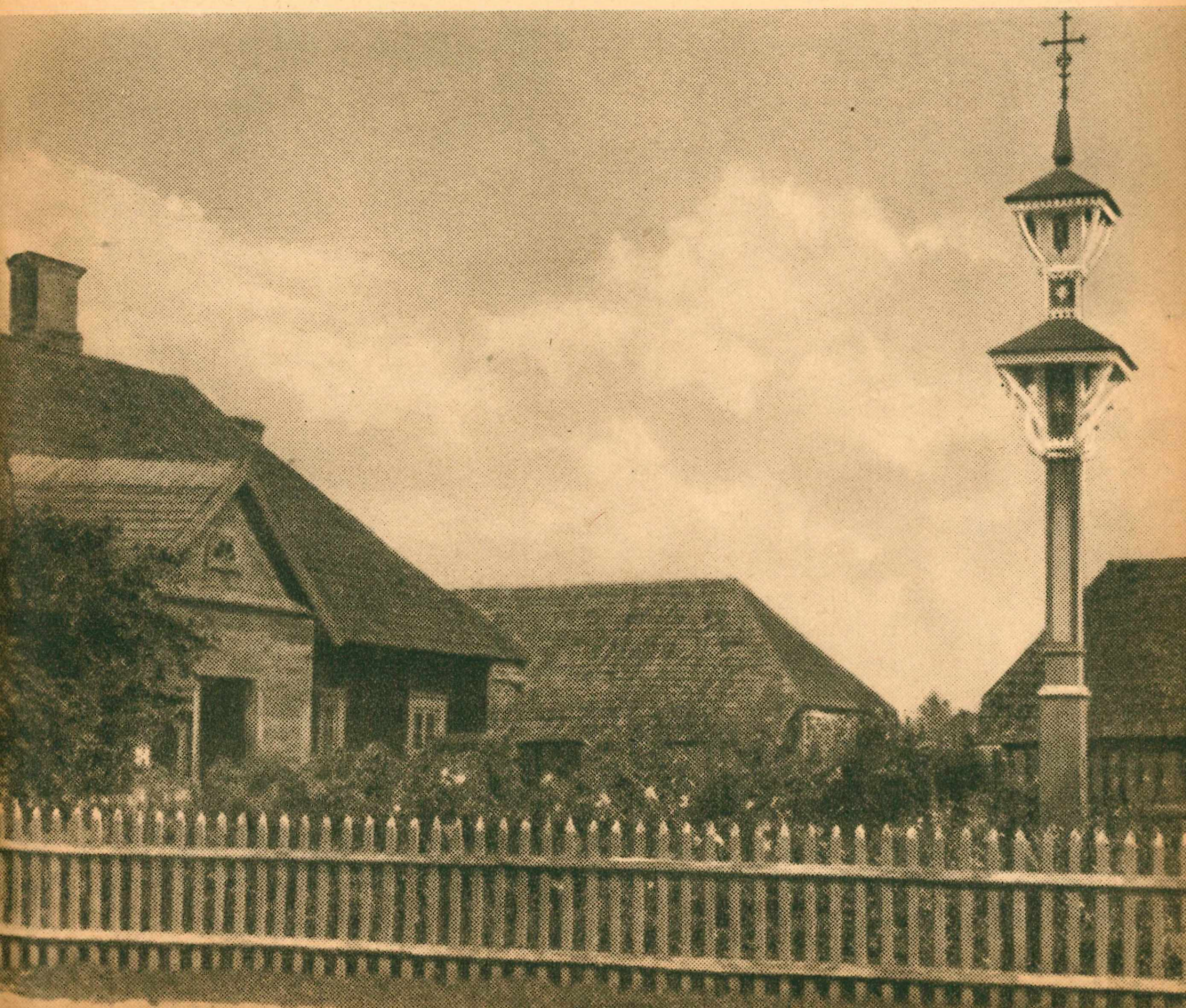
The Spires of Suvintai (*Prosvart Lithuania*)

A Pilgrimage Hill
*District of Šiauliai*

An old Church at Zapyškis
*Built 16th cent. by Sapiega*



A Lithuanian Peasant and his Farm

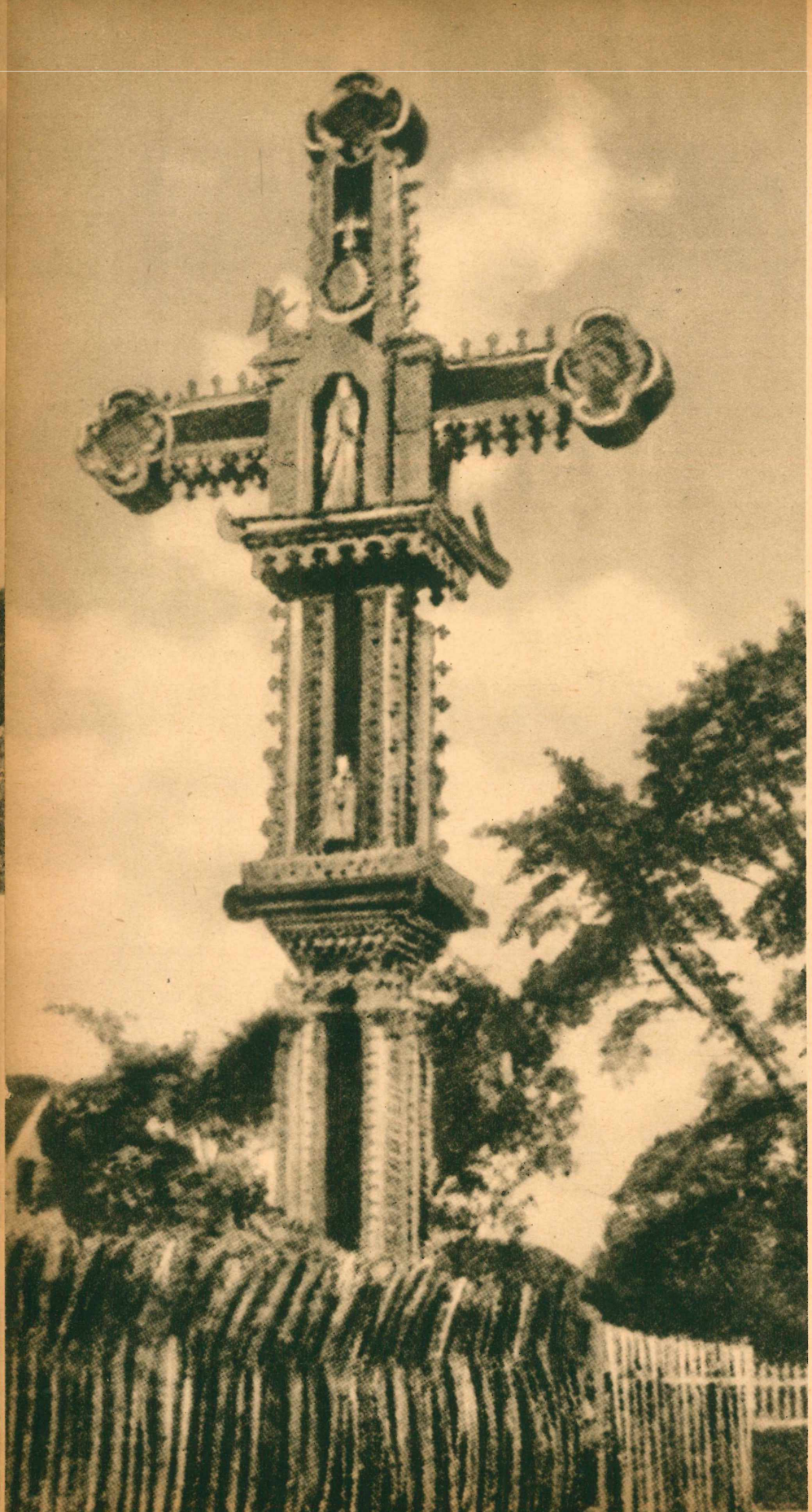


Peace

The Castle-Hill „Piliakalnis“ at Kernavé

In the Field and . . .

. . . on Sunday



Cross by the Wayside

The Castle of Gelgaudiškis
*Not far from this castle repose the remains of the Grand Duke Gediminas (1316—1341), founder of Vilnius*

An old Mill and . . .

Greetings from Lithuania!

Lake Trakai and the Ruins of the Castle
*Built by Vytautas the Great abt. 1404*

The Castle of Raudone
*Built 1337*

Weekend *(Opposite)*

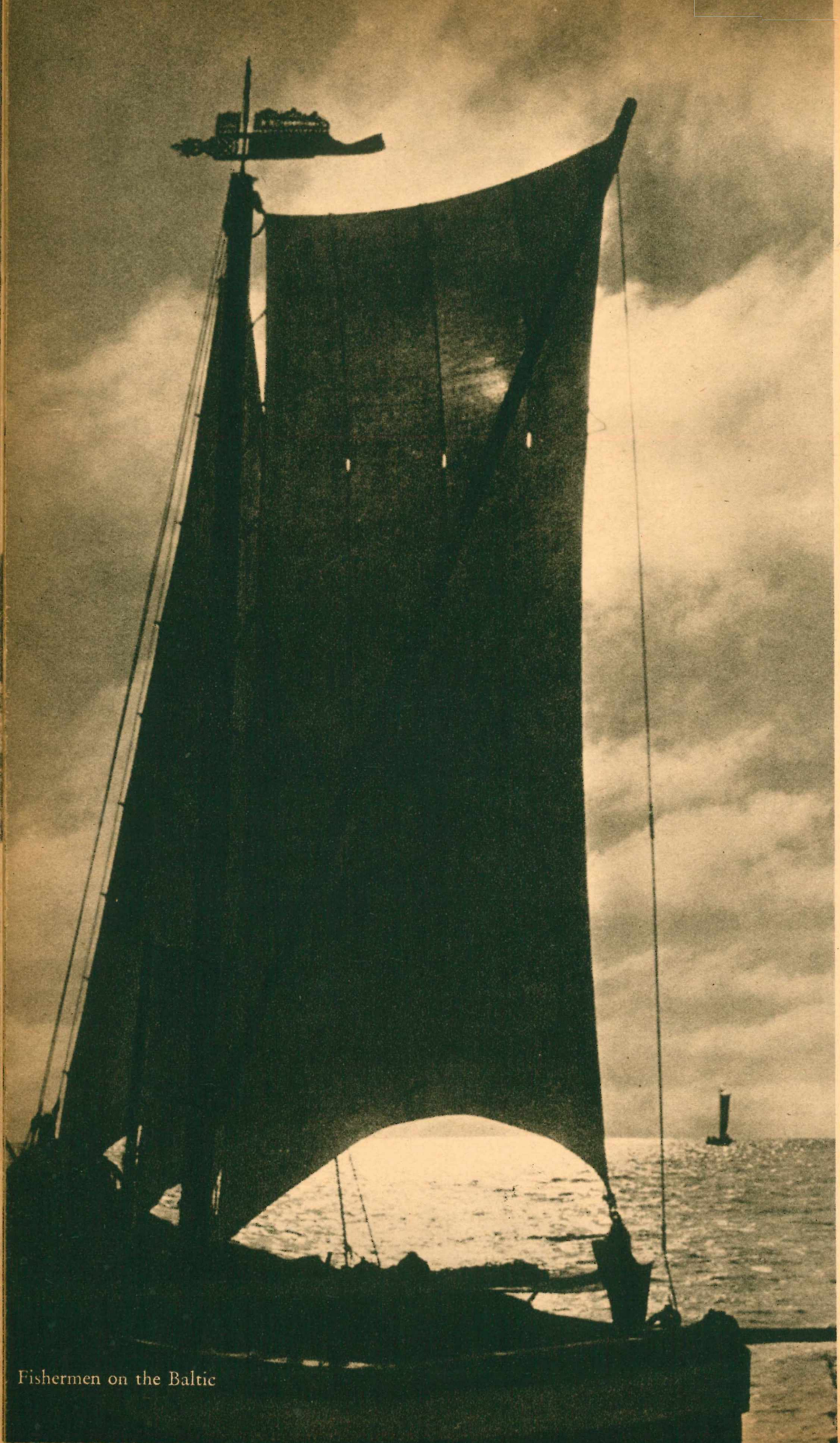
The Eastern Lakes
*District of Zarasai*

# THE SEACOAST

The Fishing Village of Nida

Dwellers of the Coast

*On the high masts Lithuanian fishing-boats carry carved wooden pennants representing armorial bearings*

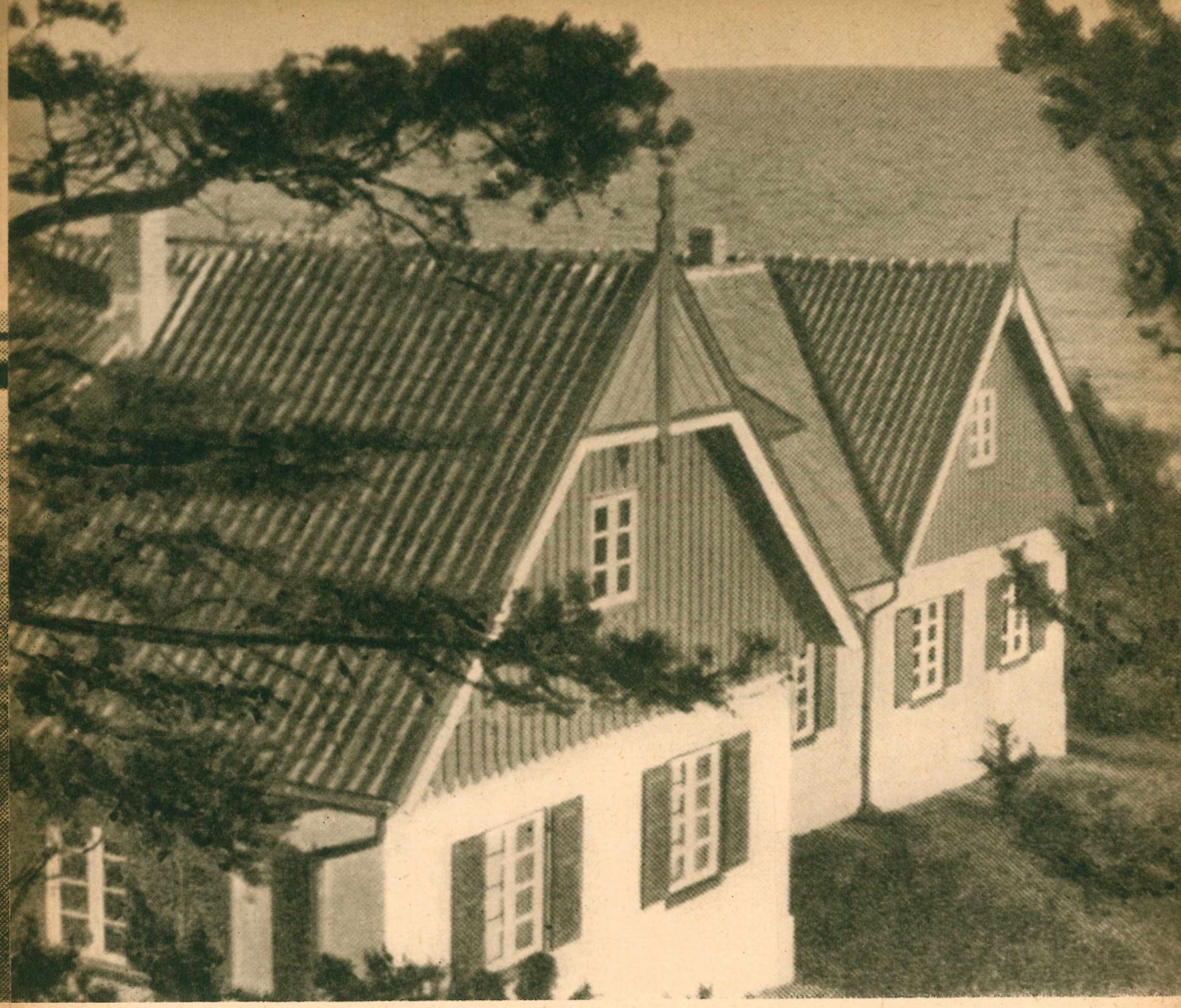


Fishermen on the Baltic

Drying Nets

Shifting Dunes at Nida, the highest Sand-Dunes in Europe
*They travel eastward at a rate of 15 feet annually. Some are 200 feet high*

Fisherman's Hut overlooking the Sea



Small but clean and attractive Cottages for Holiday-makers

Beach at Palanga

Evening Calm

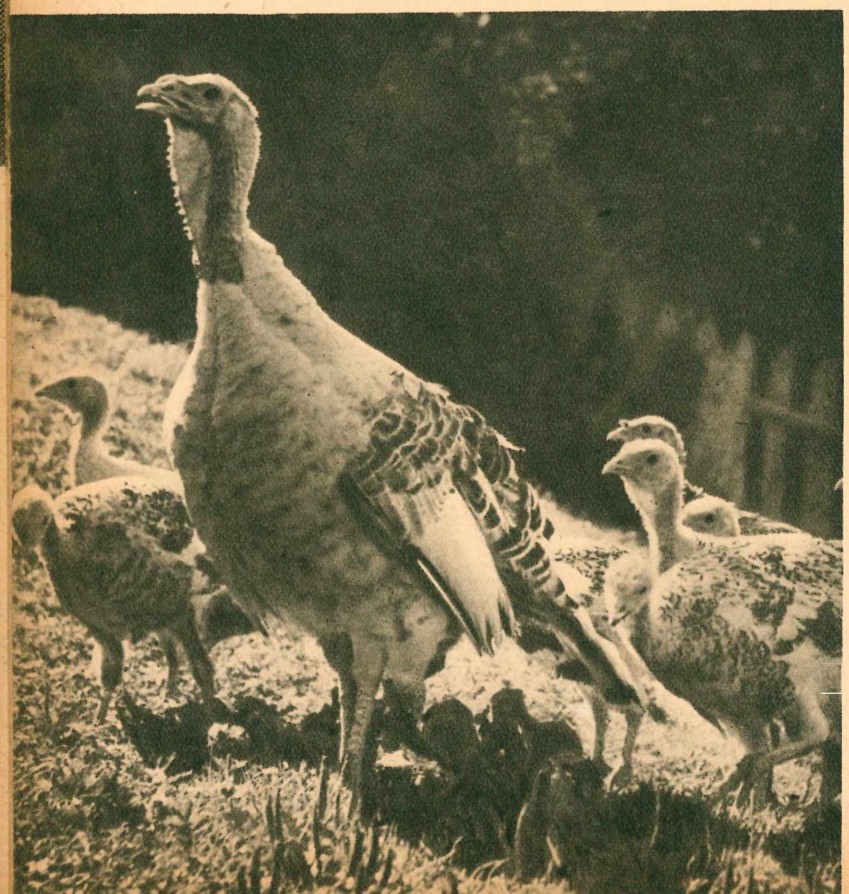
Klaipėda Harbour and Dangė Channel

*Lithuania's most important trading port*

# AGRICULTURE

Nearly a million Geese ready for Export annually

*Emden and Pomeranian breeds*



The popular Easter Roast

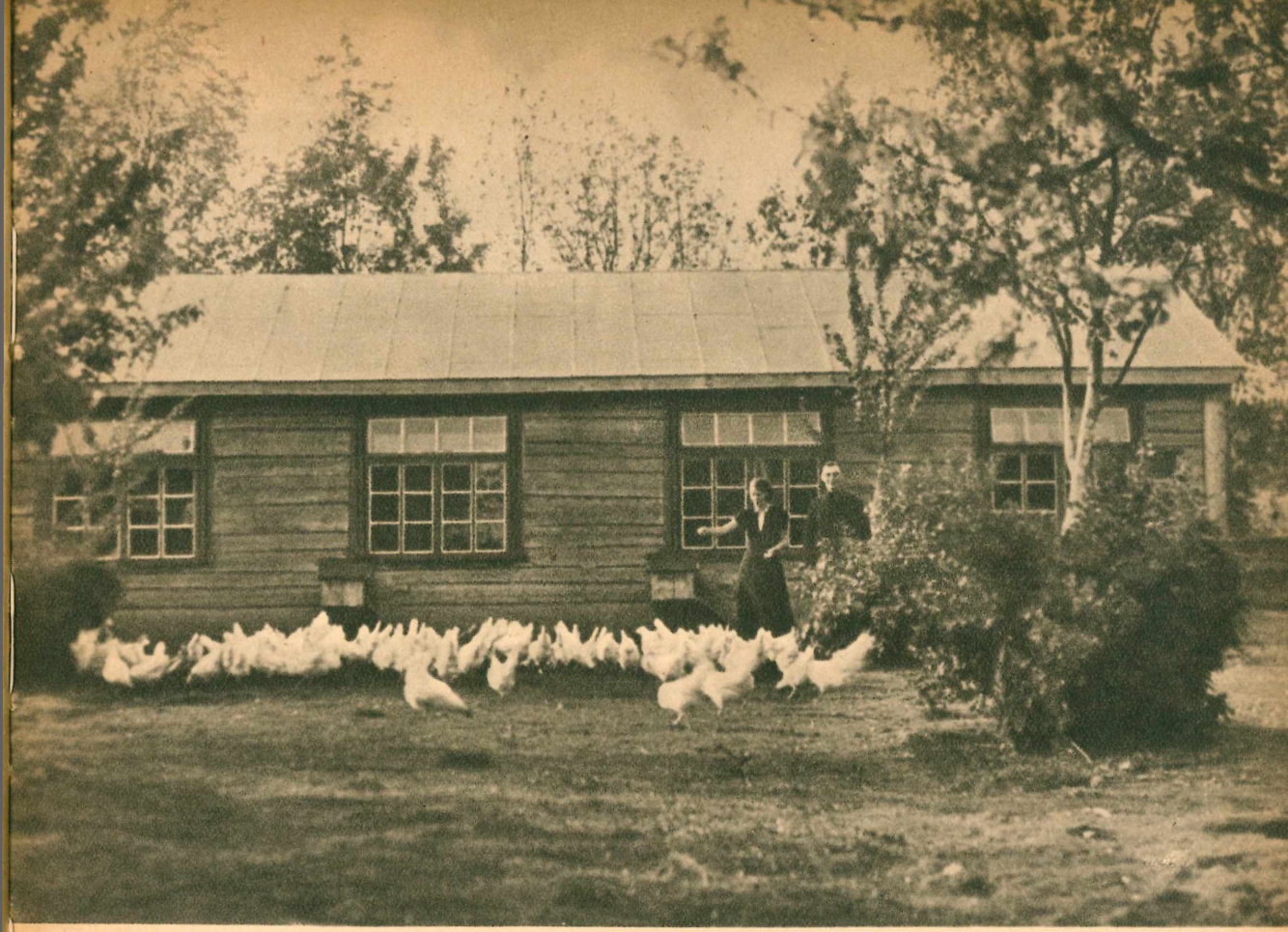
*American Bronze breed*

*Opposite:*

Poultry-Farm

*Rhode Island Reds and Leghorns are the most popular breeds*

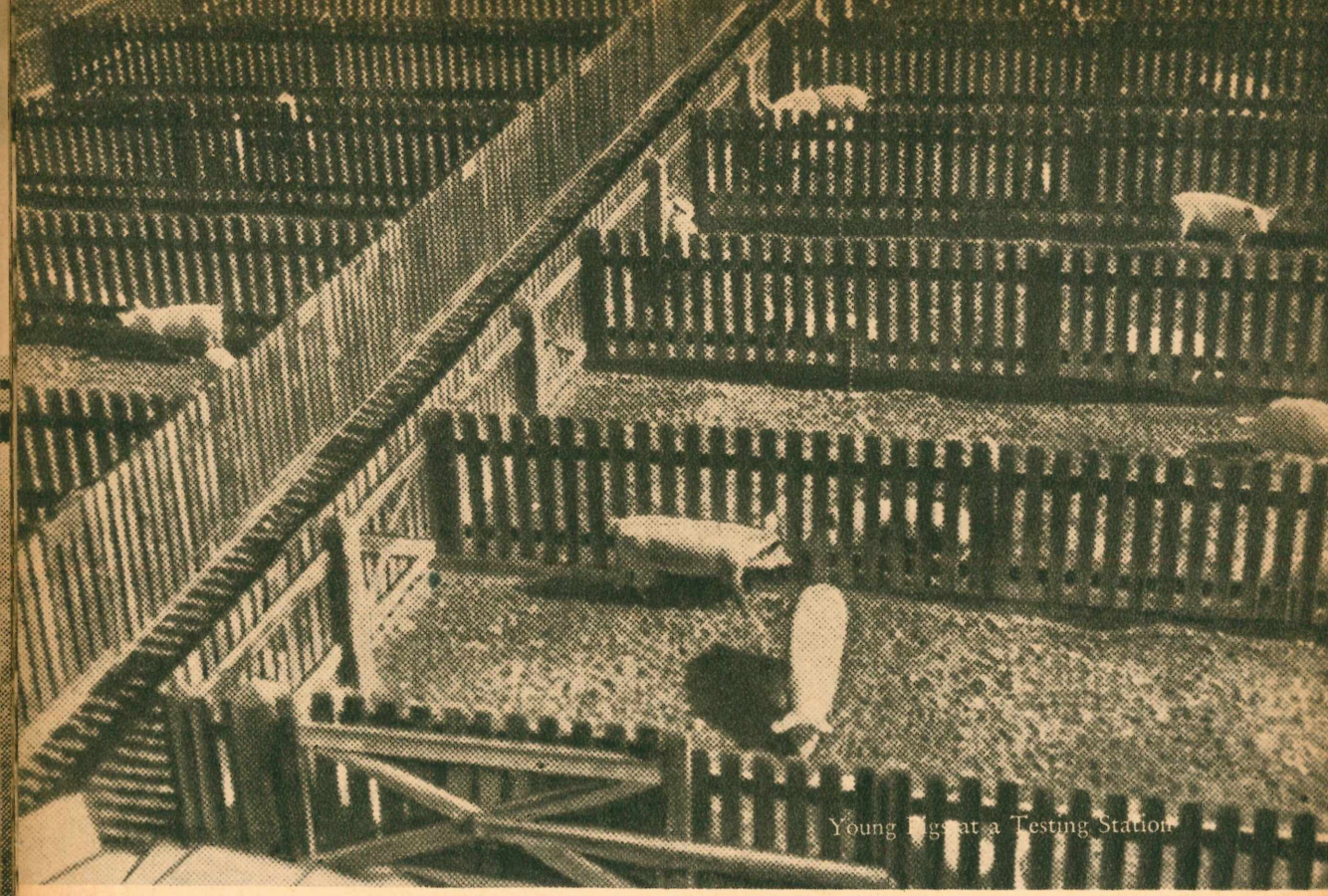
The Bee-Hive is traditional in Lithuania



Shropshire and Romanoff Breeds prevail

Black-and-Whites on the Way Home

*Beside these one meets Reds and a local race*



Young Pigs at a Testing Station

From the Farm to . . . the Slaughterhouse

A New Settler and His Home

Home-grown

Secondary Agricultural School for Girls at Salos

Over $ 5.000.000 spent in the last ten Years on Land Drainage

Land Reclamation and Surveying College at Kedainiai

Veterinary Academy at Kaunas-Viljampolė

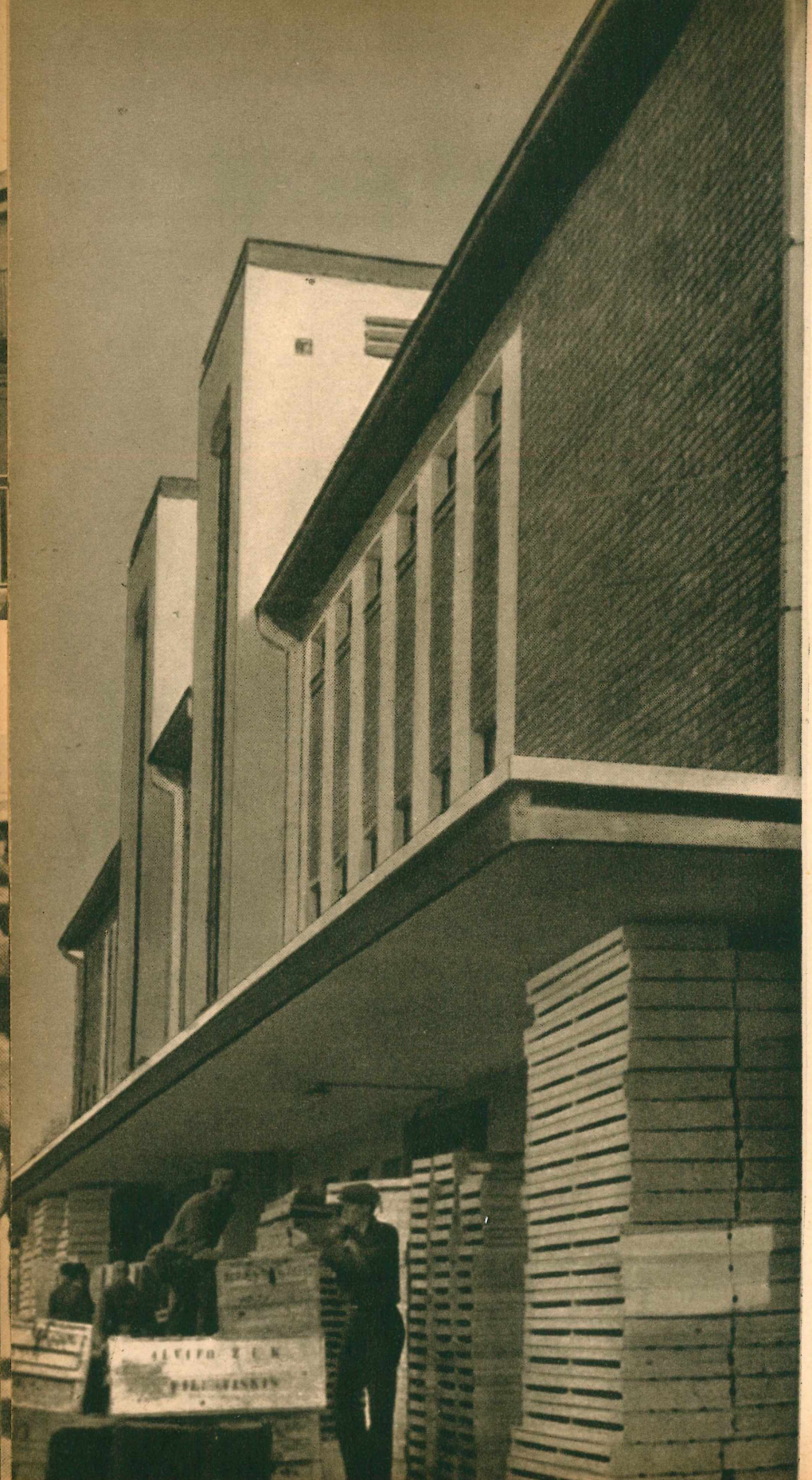
The Prize-Winners „Žemaitukai“

The Academy of Agriculture at Dotnuva

The Chamber of Agriculture at Kaunas

After the Harvest

# FOOD INDUSTRY



Delivery of Eggs from
a Collecting Station

Lithuanian Products at the International Dairy Congress in Berlin, 1937

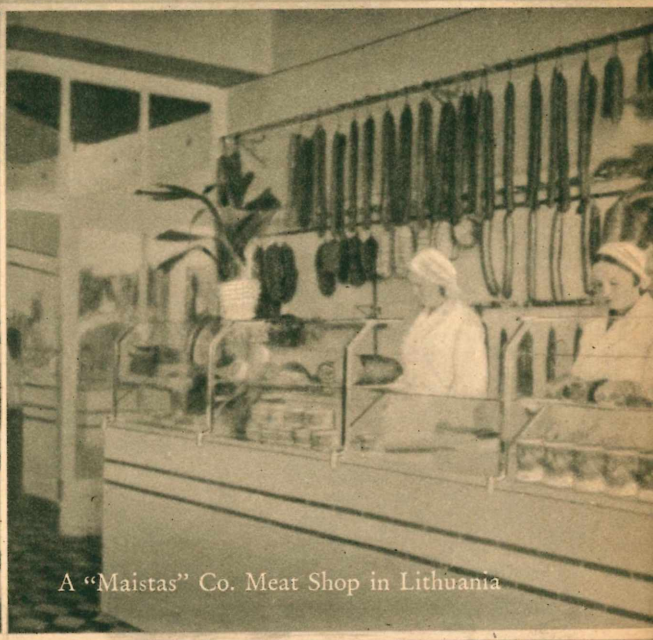
Poultry preparation in a Meat-Factory

Poultry dressing Factory at Juljanava

*The most modern export poultry dressing station in Europe*

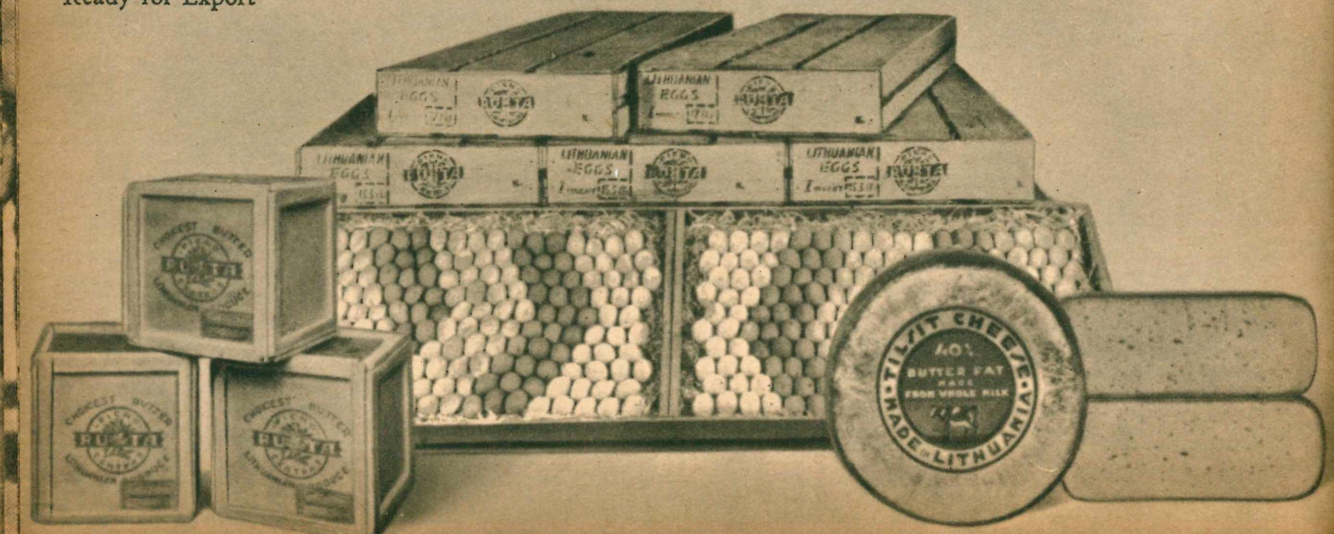
Ready for Export

Lithuanian Butter in a London Shop

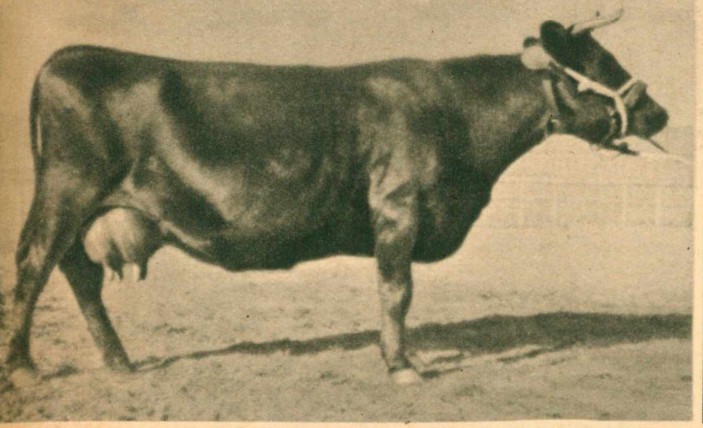


A "Maistas" Co. Meat Shop in Lithuania

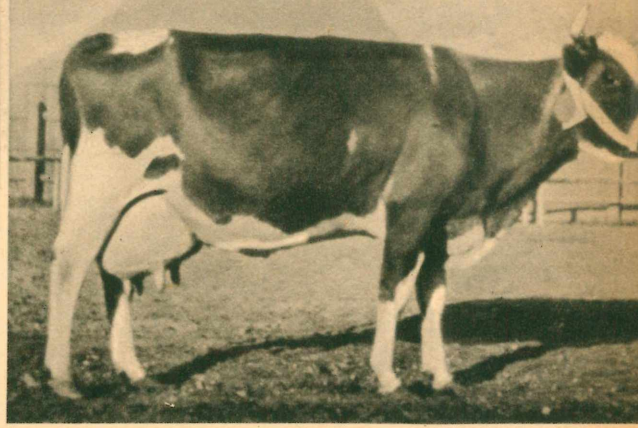
Ready for Export

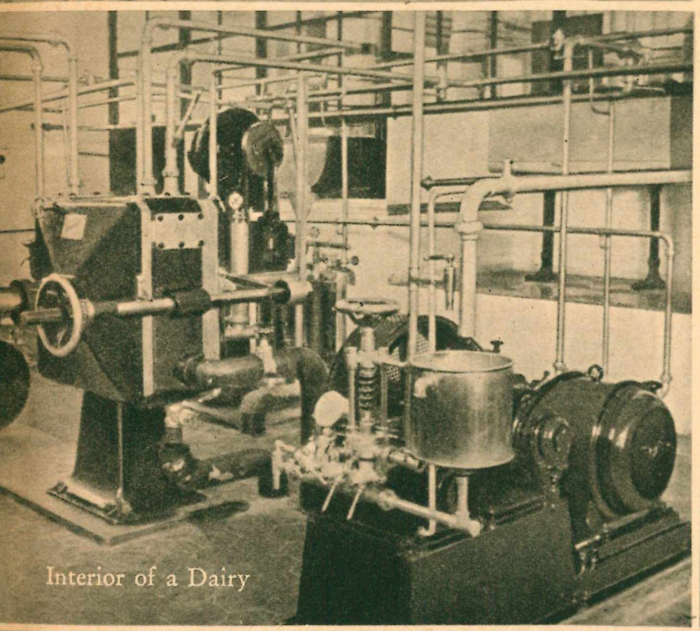


These Ladies yield 8192 Quarts . . .



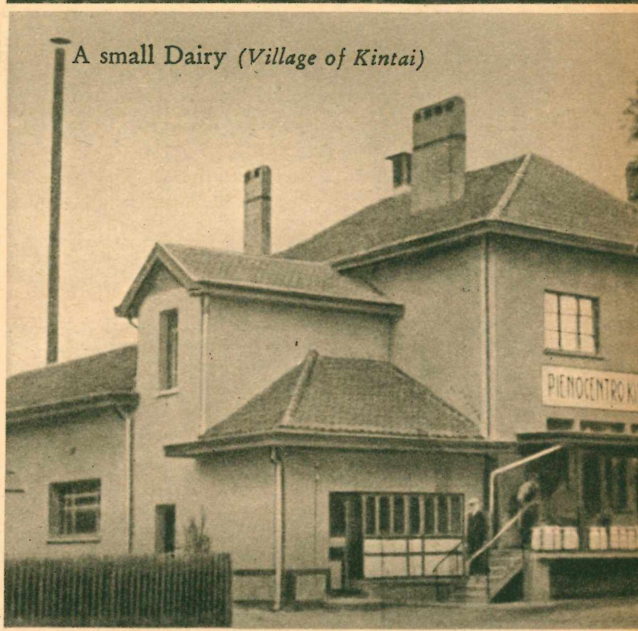
and 8408 Quarts of Milk annually



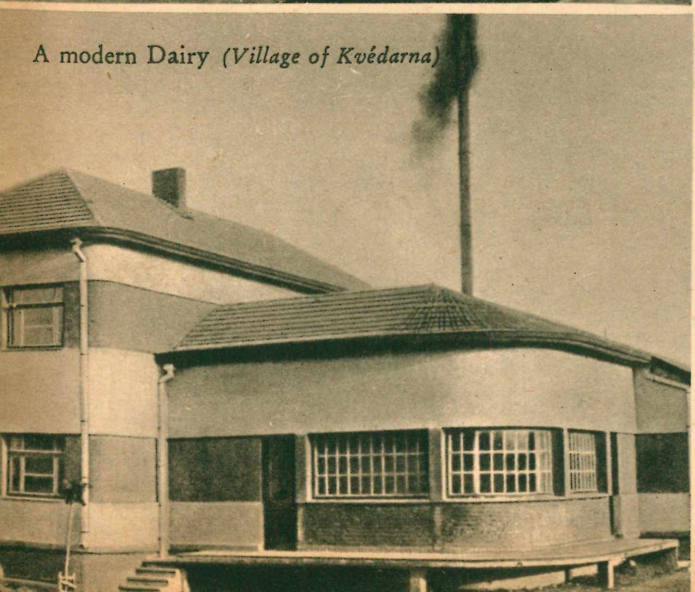


Interior of a Dairy

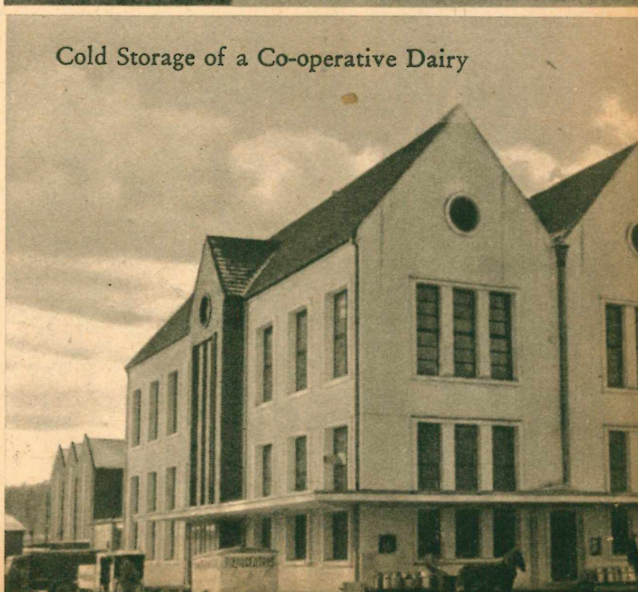
A small Dairy *(Village of Kintai)*



A modern Dairy *(Village of Kvédarna)*



Cold Storage of a Co-operative Dairy



Special Refrigerating Chamber for Experiments with Butter

Butter in Cold Storage

*Automatic temperature control by thermograph*

The „Lietūkis“ Grain Elevator at Klaipėda

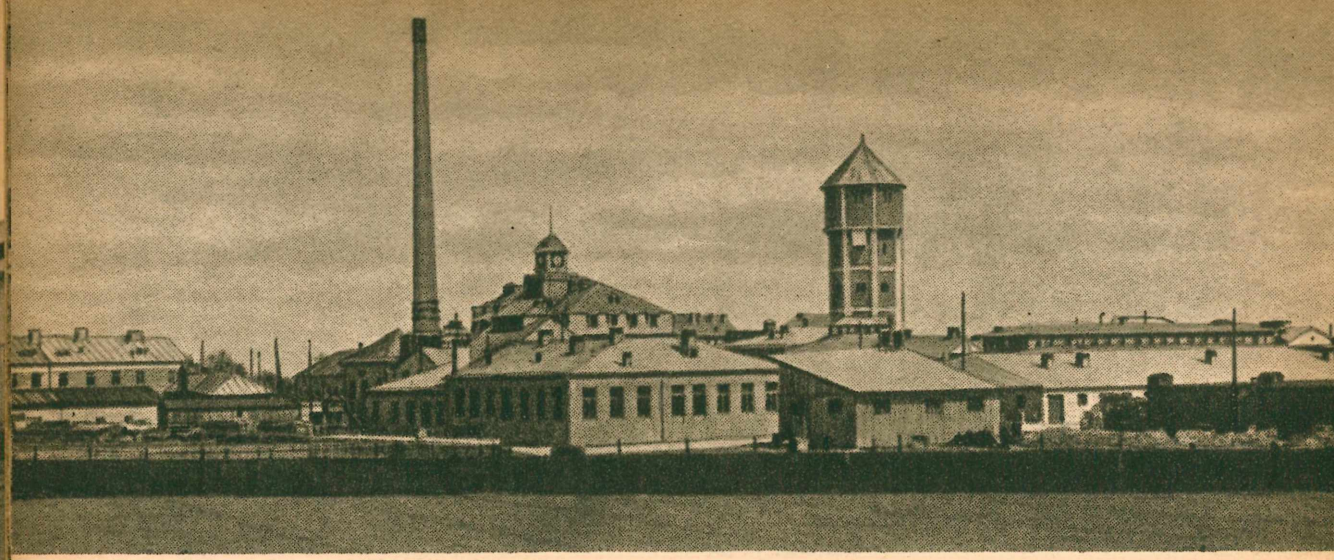
The central Cold Store at Klaipėda

One of the Slaughterhouses

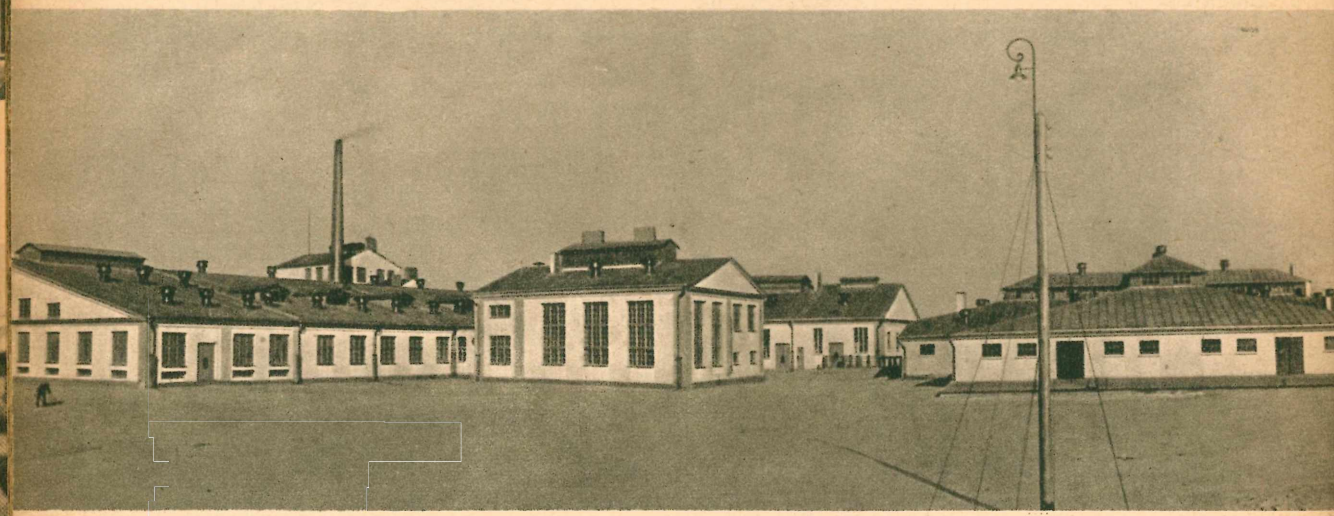
Veterinary Surgeon examining Bacon

Special Rooms at Bacon Factories for examination for Trichinosis

*Lithuania is the only country which pays a premium of $ 18 for every case of trichinosis discovered. It is so rare, that in one factory 2.000.000 pigs have been killed and only one case of trichinosis has been found*

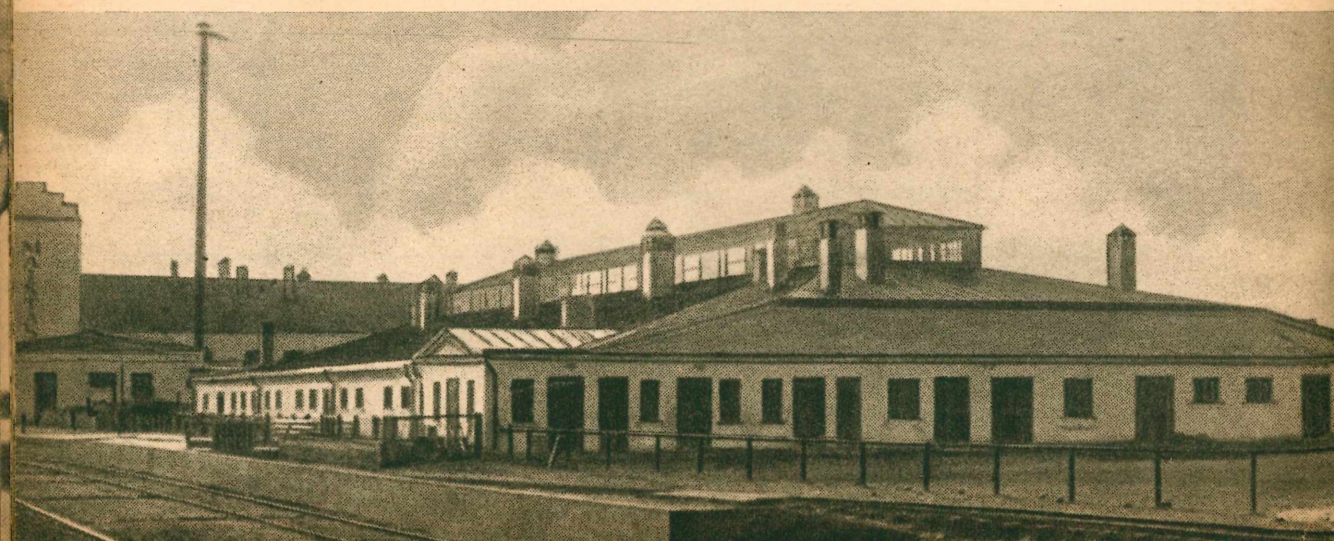


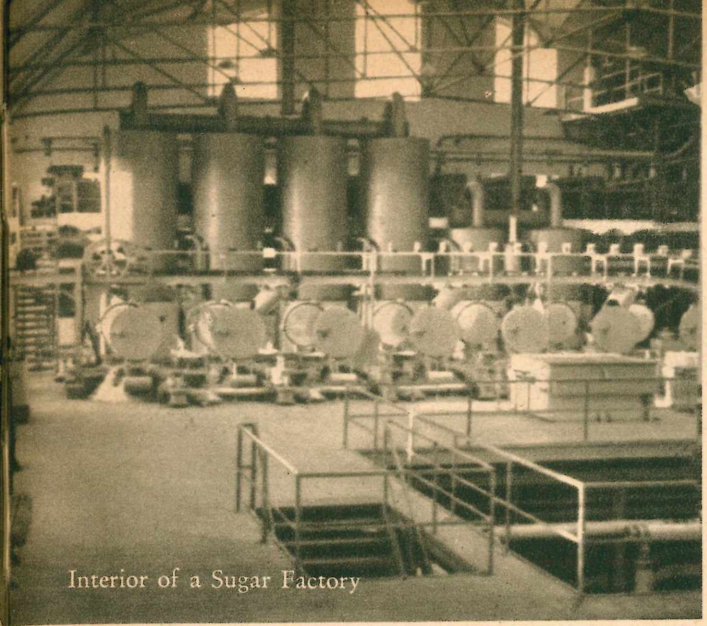
Meat-Export Factory at Juljanava



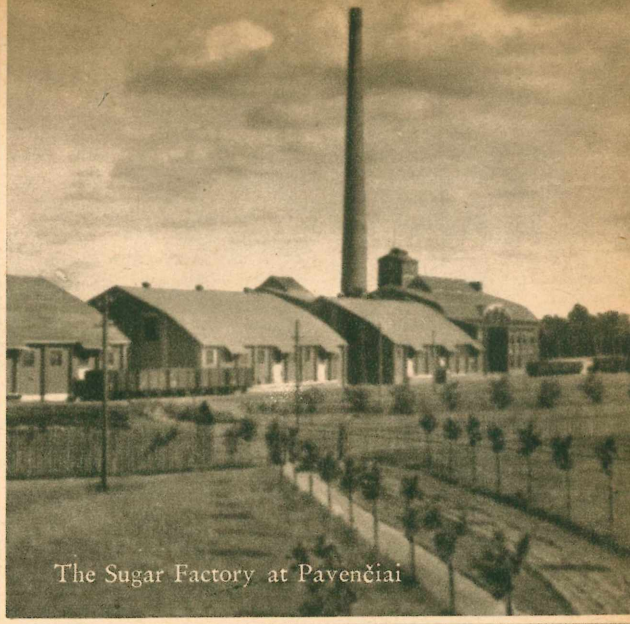
Bacon Factory at Šiauliai, probably the best in Europe

Meat-Export Factory at Panevėžys

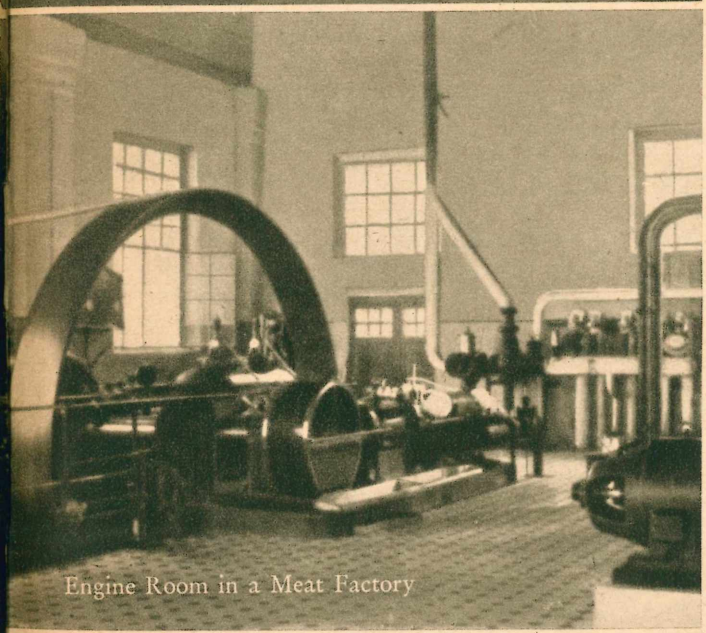




Interior of a Sugar Factory

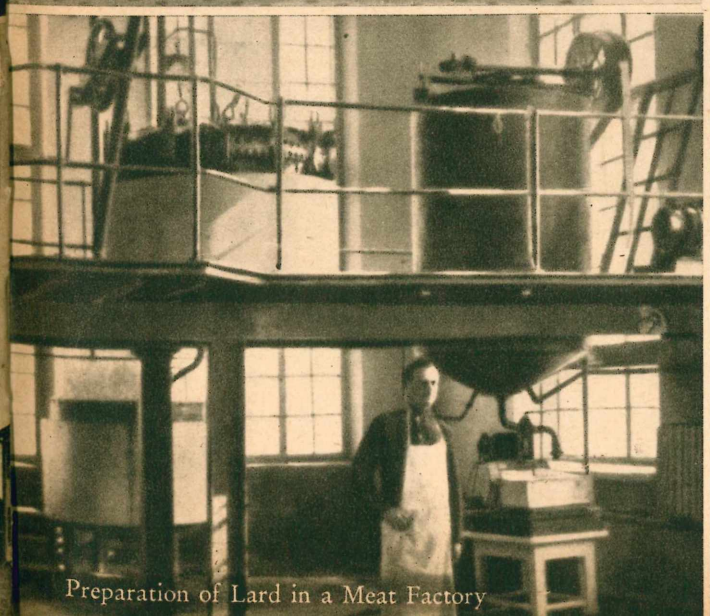


The Sugar Factory at Pavenčiai

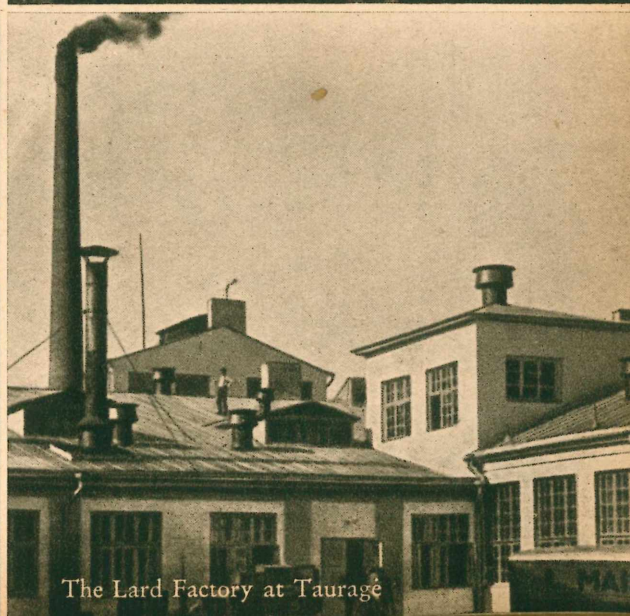


Engine Room in a Meat Factory

The Grain Elevator at Kaunas-Aleksotas



Preparation of Lard in a Meat Factory



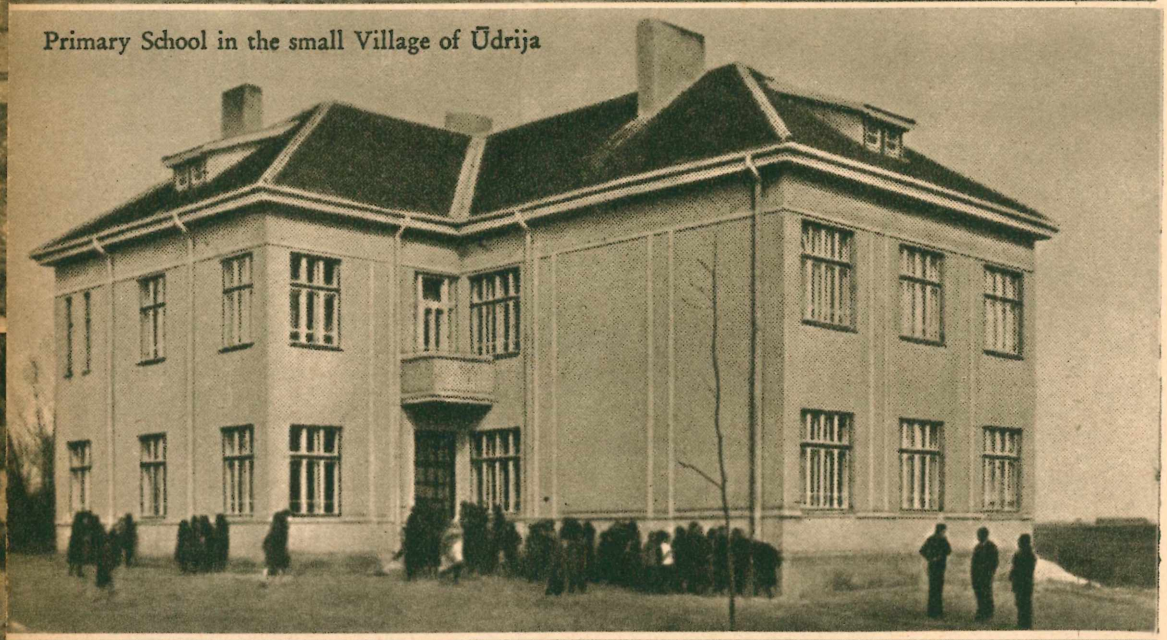
The Lard Factory at Tauragė

„Pienocentras“ Office at Kaunas, an efficient Organization for scientific Dairying

„Lietūkis“ Office at Kaunas, the largest Trading Concern for General Exports

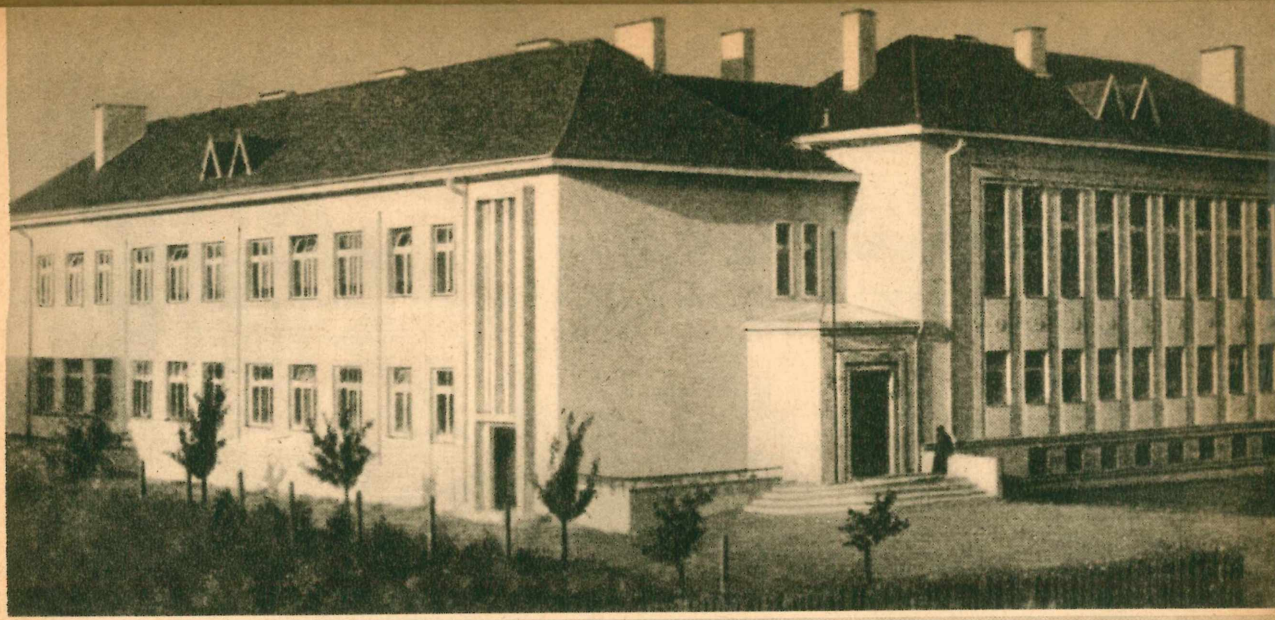
# EDUCATION

Primary School at Kaunas

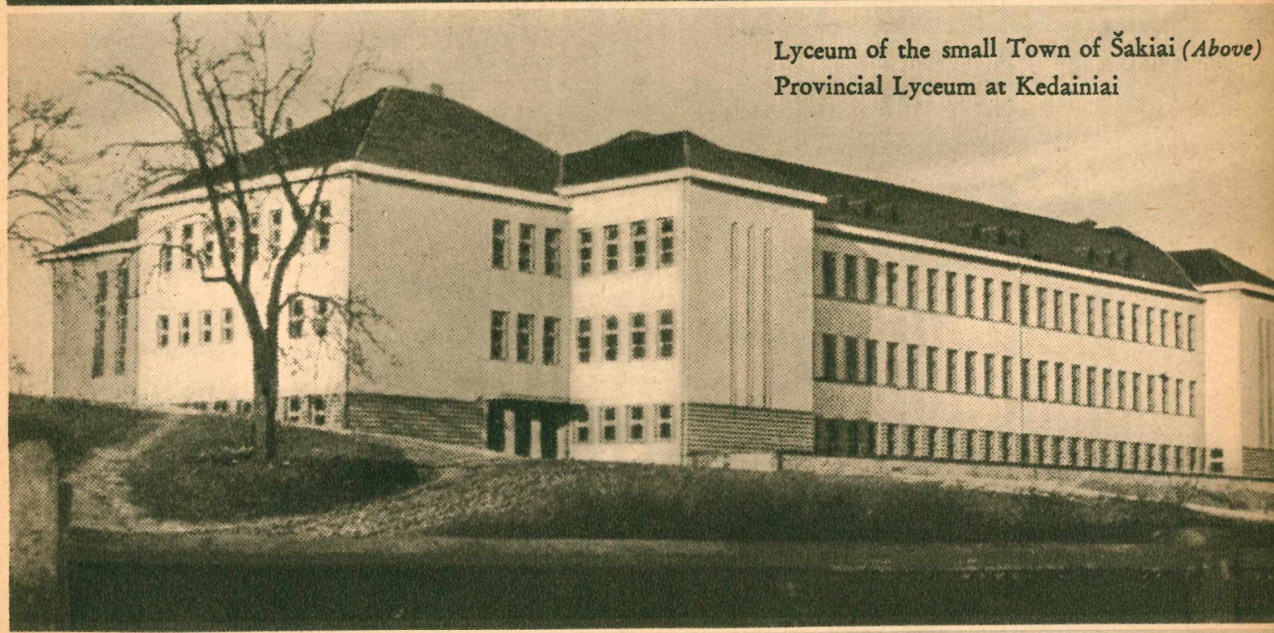


Primary School in the small Village of Ūdrija

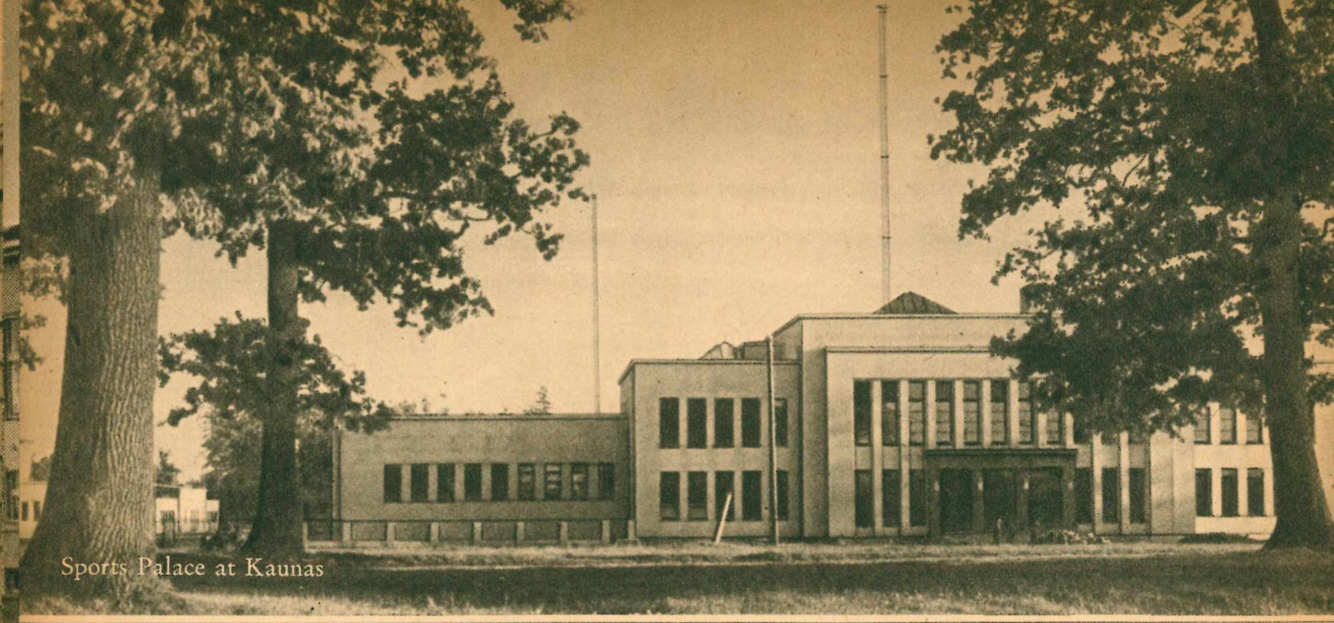
Primary School at Utena



Lyceum of the small Town of Šakiai *(Above)*
Provincial Lyceum at Kedainiai



Provincial Lyceum at Ukmergė



Sports Palace at Kaunas

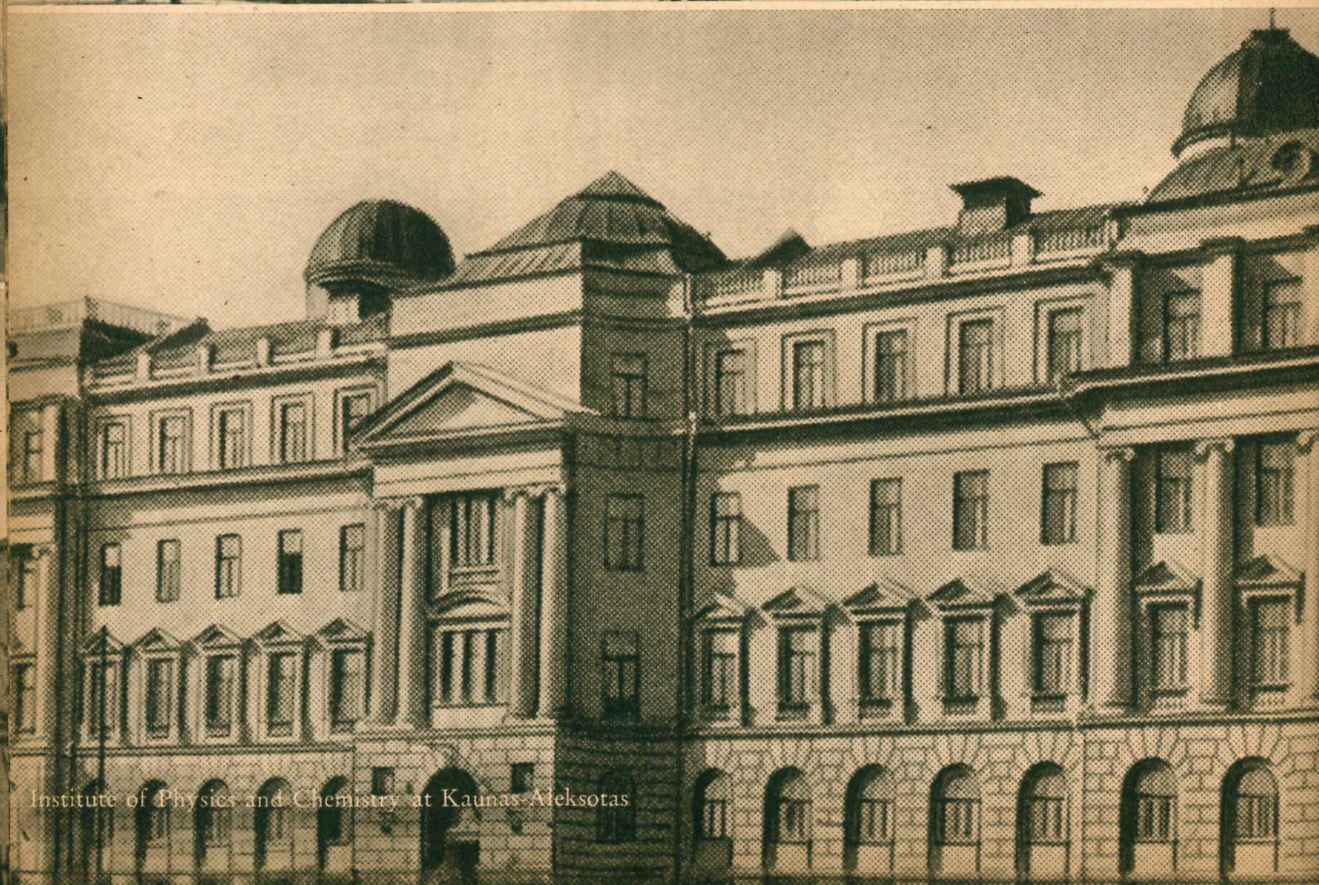
Glider School at Nida

*Motorless flying, 24 Hrs. 3 Min. by A. Gyras in 1938*

Sports Festival in a District

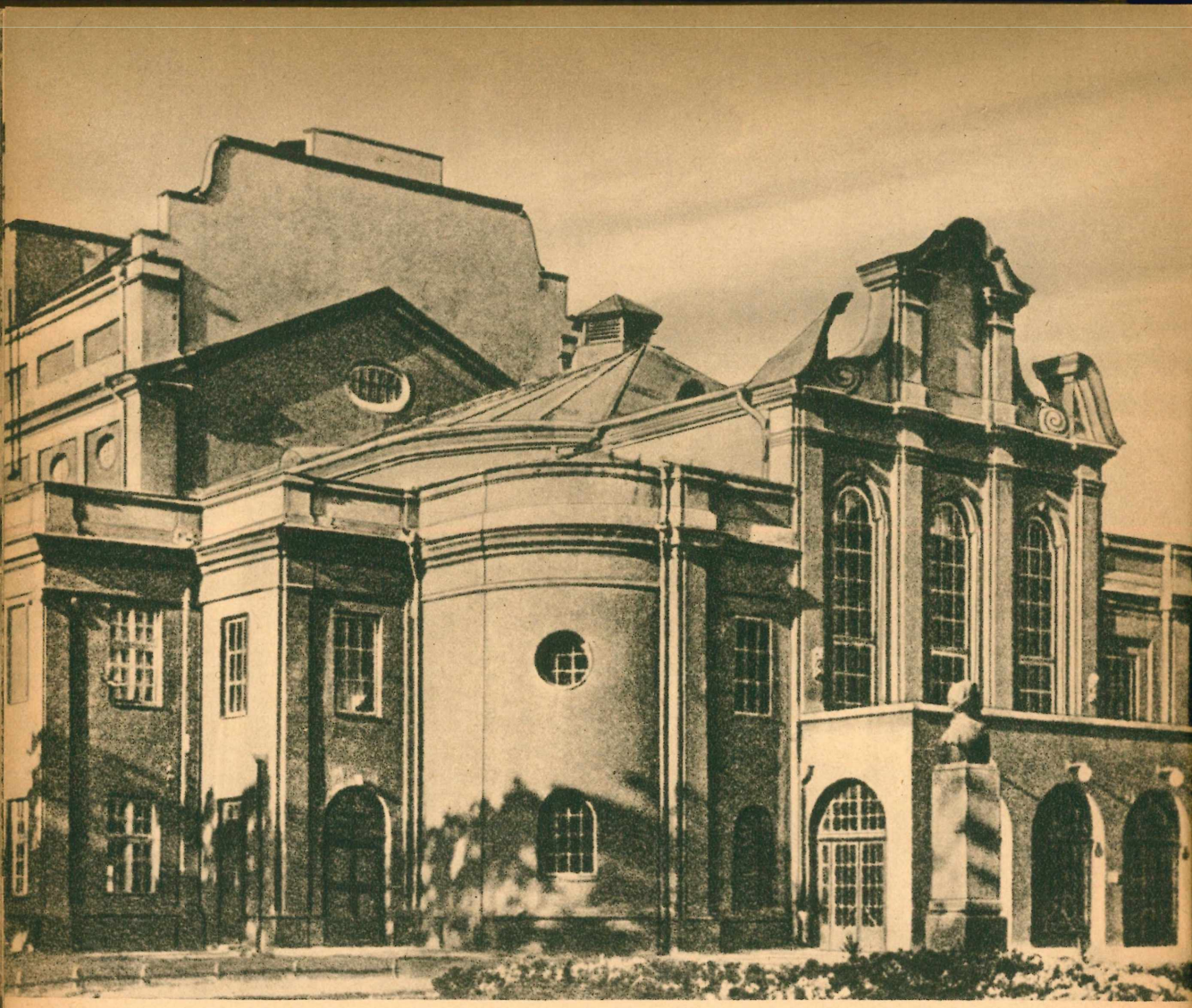
Lithuania-European Basketball Champion since 1937 to date

University at Kaunas, Classical Faculty



Institute of Physics and Chemistry at Kaunas-Aleksotas

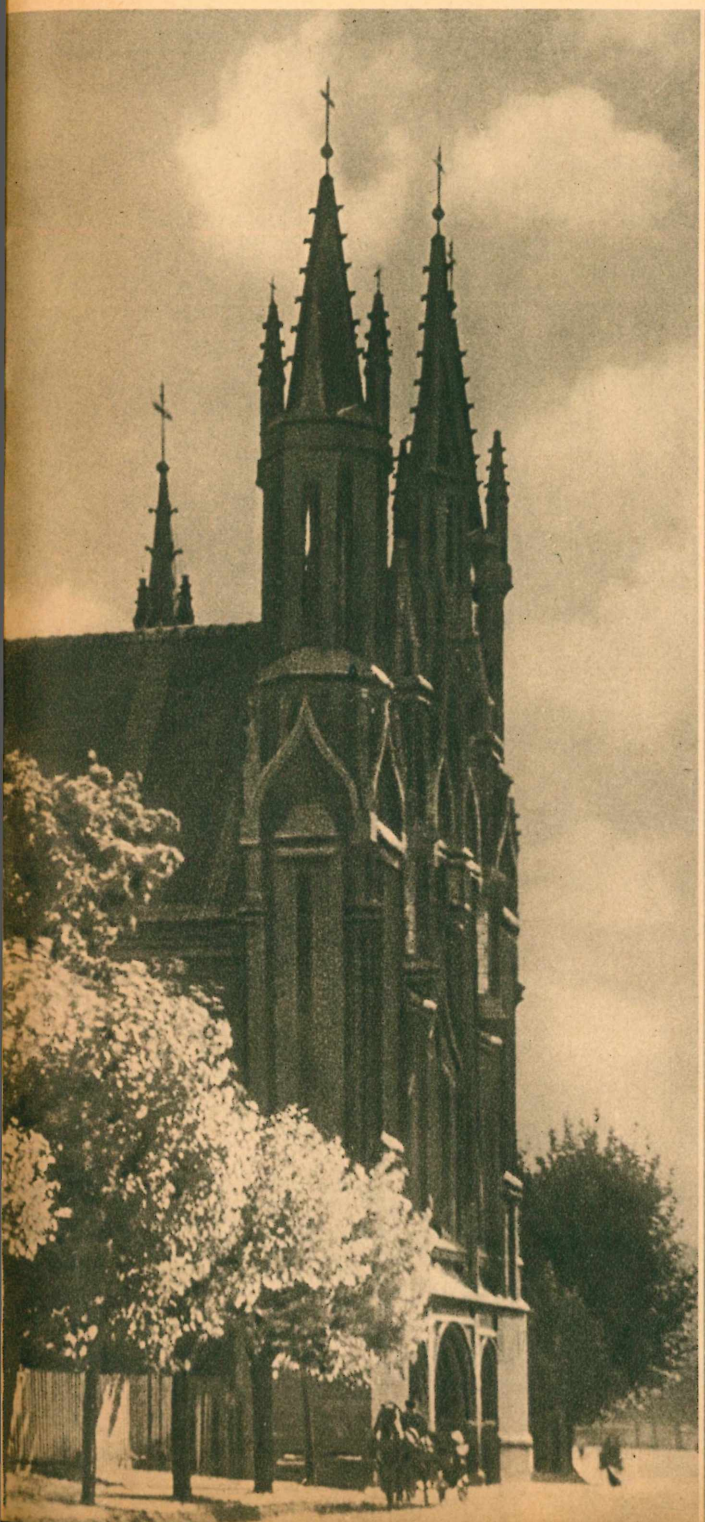
Academy at Vilnius, founded 1579



State Opera at Kaunas

# TWO CAPITALS IN ONE STATE

Vilnius, St. Anna Church



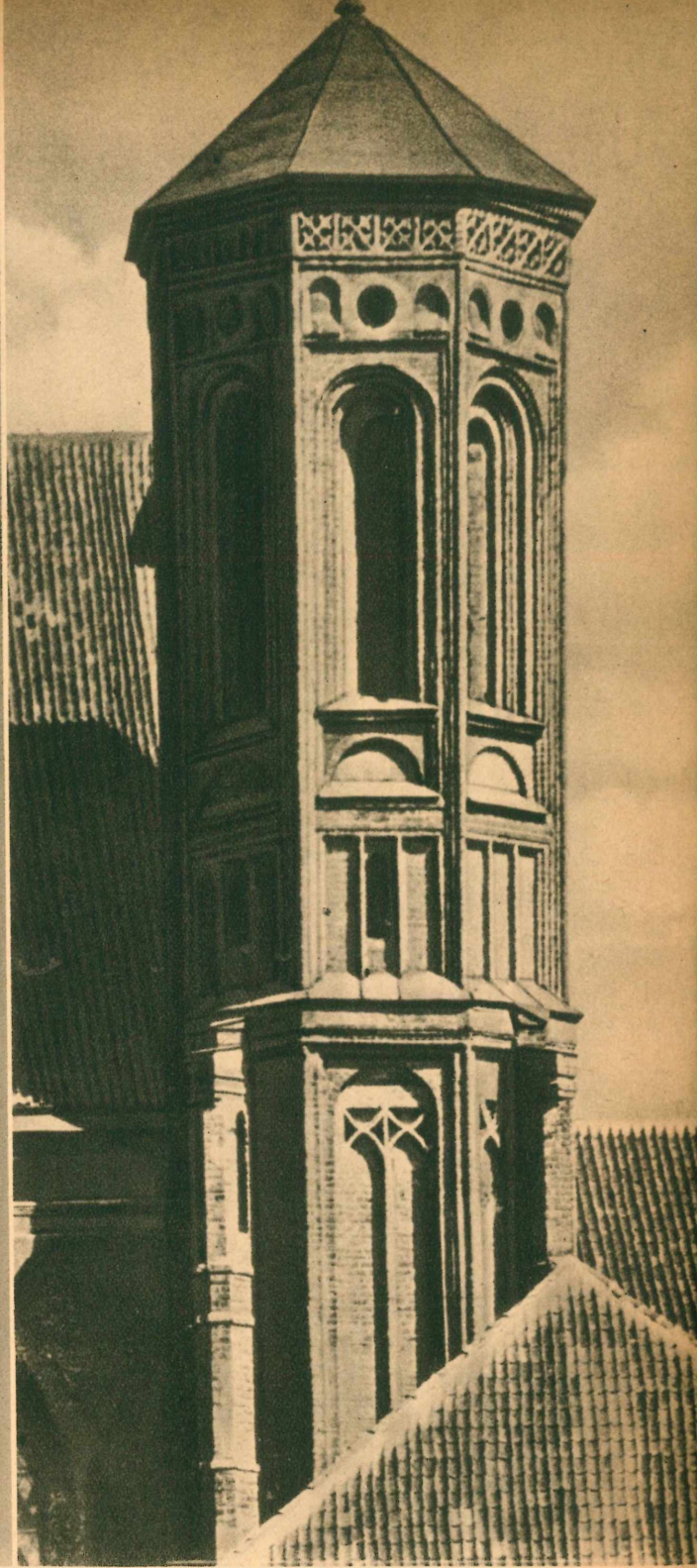
Kaunas, Monument of Liberty

Vilnius, the Capital of Lithuania and one of the most famous Towns in Eastern Europe

*Founded about 1323 by Grand Duke Gediminas. In 1387 it was granted the Magdeburg Right*

The New City-Hall *(Opposite)*

*Rebuilt 1777 by Architect Laurynas Stuoka-Gucevičius*

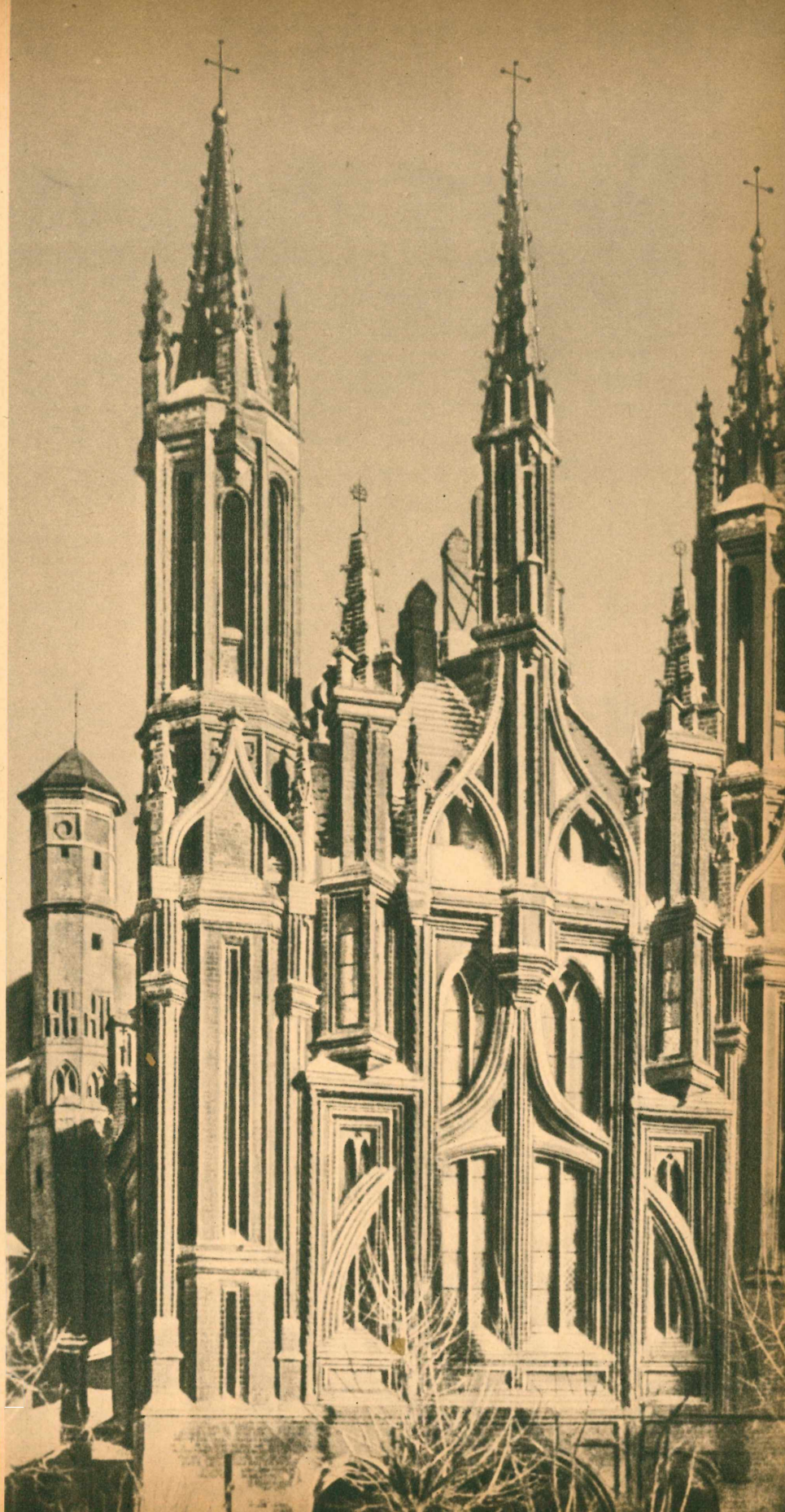


St. Maria Magdalena, St. Peter and Paul Church

*Designed by the Italian sculptors Pietro Peretti and Giovanni Maria Galli.*
*Founded 1668 by Mykolas Pacas, Headman of Lithuania and Palatine of Vilnius*

Bell-Tower of Bernardine Church

*Built 15th cent.*



St. Anna Church

*One of the most beautiful Gothic churches in Eastern Europe. Built 16th cent. by unknown architect*

Aurora-Gate Chapel

*Former old city gate built 1503—1522, later restored in Classic style*

Wonder-working Madonna in the Aurora-Gate Chapel

*Painted 16th cent. by unknown master*

St. John's Church

*A wooden church stood here in 1387. Present façade rebuilt in late Baroque style after fire in 1737*

St. Casimir Church

*Built 1604—1615 by Leonas Sapiega, Grand-Chancellor and Headman of Lithuania, Palatine of Vilnius*

The Cathedral

*The first Cathedral was built in 1387 by Grand Duke Jogaila. After the fire of 1419 rebuilt by Vytautas the Great. Again destroyed several times by fire and war. Modernized 1777 in Classic style by Architect Laurynas Stuoka-Gucevičius*

A Look through the Centuries

Vilnius at Night

Kaunas, one of the oldest Cities of Lithuania *(Opposite)*

*Founded about 1080 by Duke Kunas. In 1408 it was granted the Magdeburg Right. Temporary capital from 1920 to 1939 during the Polish occupation of Vilnius*

KAUNAS

Ruins of Castle

*The castle of Kaunas, built in the 14th cent., later restored several times*

The City-Hall

*Built in 1542 (finished 1562). Renewed in 1638 by Albrechtas Stanislovas Radvila, Palatine of Kaunas*

Church of Vytautas the Great

*Built 1400 by Vytautas the Great*

Old Cannon in the Museum of Vytautas the Great

St. Trinity Church and Bell-Tower

*Built 1634—1703 by Aleksandras Masalskis*

The Pažaislis Monastery near Kaunas, most beautiful Baroque Monument of its Time

*Built 17th cent. by Kristupas Pacas, Grand Chancellor of Lithuania. Internally decorated by the famous Italian painters Del Pieno del Campo, Ludovico Fredo, and Pietro Puttini*

Romance of Kaunas

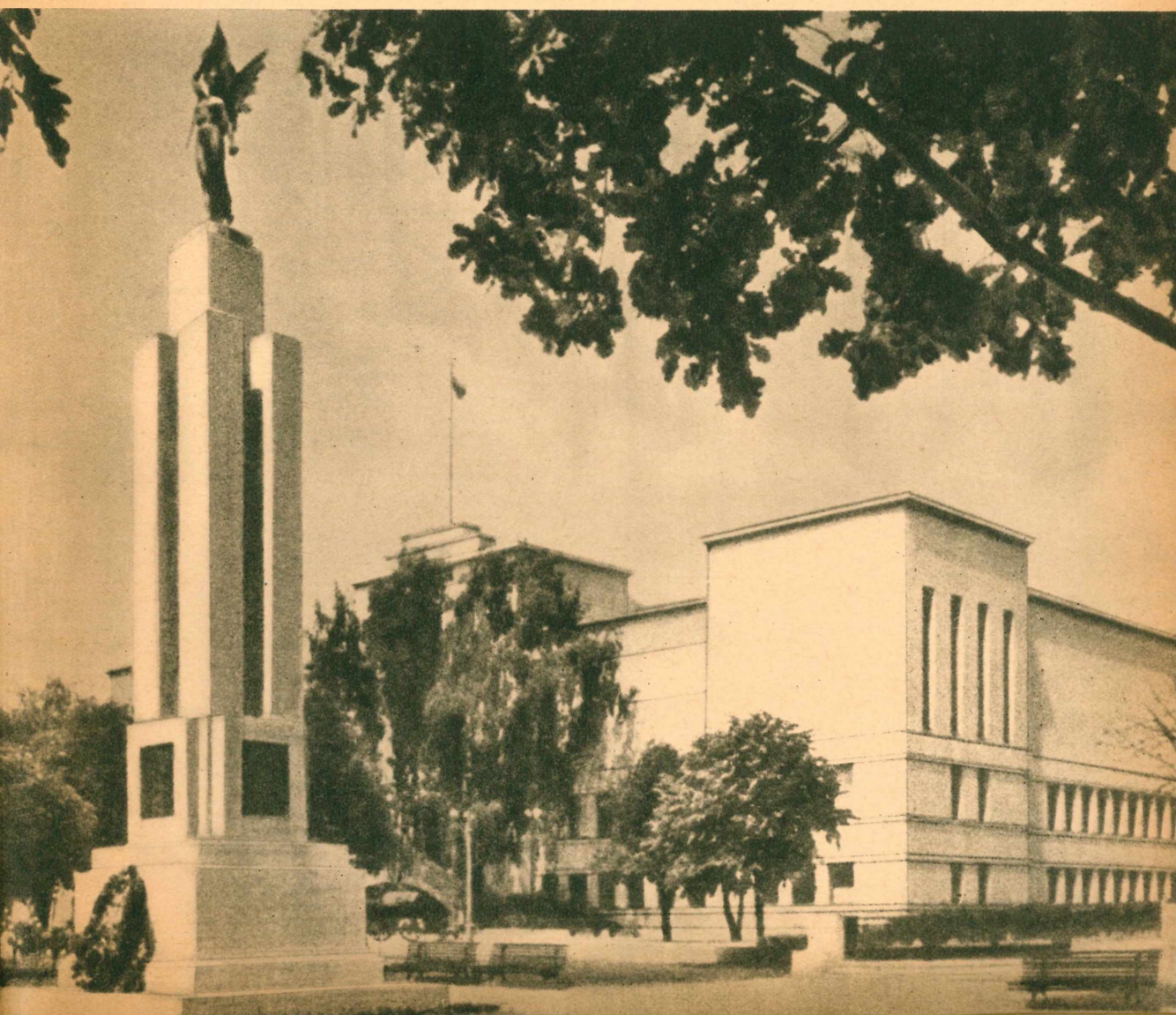
An old Lane

Palace of Justice

The Bank of Lithuania at Kaunas

Kaunas District Offices

The Bank of Agriculture

The new Part of the City

Independence Square and Museum of Vytautas the Great